objections had been to any particular tax, or to any one or two or more of the new taxes which as optional and alternative taxes were introduced into our Bill, in that case also, I should be perfectly ready to surrender my own opinion. I should have done so not altogether very unwillingly. I am not prepared to say that the view taken by the Council in former days, namely, that direct taxation in the nature of a local property and income tax on means and substance is the fairest to all parties, may not have been a sound one, provided the rule is well and fairly applied to all. I am not prepared to say that it may not be that indirect taxes, inasmuch as they are less immediately felt, may not on that account be liable to be somewhat unduly increased, as has been perhaps in some instances the case in the Panjab and in other Provinces. And if His Excellency had told us that his view is that we should stick to one form of taxation, namely, a direct tax on the means and substance of the tax-payer as provided in most of our present Municipal Acts, I should not be inclined to contend against that decision, and should be ready to meet the views of His Excellency in a new Bill. If, on the other hand, His Excellency had told us that there should not be any indication of the taxes to be imposed, that it would be better that the law should be passed in a general form as to taxation, which should be regulated by the local Government, subject to the control of the Government of India; if he had suggested that our Bill should be modelled on the model of the Panjab Bill just passed, where the taxation is not limited by law, but is liable to be limited by rules prescribed by the Government of India, that also I should be prepared to accept, if the Council were prepared to accept such a solution.

My object has been throughout not an increase of taxation, but the introduction of a system of self-government. My impression is that if the Bill which I had the honor to lay before the Council, had been carried out *bonâ fide*, and in the spirit of its provisions, it would not have led to increase in the *rate* of taxation. The little burden which may have been imposed for education would have been met by the relief that would be given in the cost of maintaining the Police; so that compulsory rating in towns would not have been increased. Then, if the taxation in excess of such moderate compulsory rating should be really and truly voluntary as the Bill provided, my impression is strong that you would not find the people too ready to tax themselves. If the Bill had been successful, if it had proved acceptable to the people, it is very likely it would have been extended to more towns, and there would have been an increase in the area, but not in the rate of Municipal taxation. The Council are perhaps aware (the figures have been published) that the total amount of Municipal taxation in Bengal is far less than in other Provinces. I find that the rate of taxation is also far less than in other Provinces; the incidence of taxation, the rate per head in the towns subject to the Municipal system, is far less than in the North Western Provinces, far less than in the Panjab; less than in Madras; less, I believe, than in any other Province in India. But low as our local taxation is, my own wish was not to speedily increase the rate of taxation, but to present to the people of Bengal a system of voluntary taxation, which they might eventually have extended over a greater area and to new objects really acceptable to them.

Be that as it may, what I was submitting to the Council is this, that I apprehend that the objections of the Viceroy to the Bill are of too radical and sweeping a character to make it possible that I should attempt a tinkering of the Bill with any success. I think that the objections expressed in the 6th paragraph of the Viceroy's letter are such that it seems clear that His Excellency objects to the whole Bill, and to the whole principle on which it is based, and that no mere tinkering is likely to make it satisfactory to His Excellency at the present time. That being so, my course has been very respectfully to tell His Excellency that I am not prepared to attempt to introduce another Municipal Bill of a general character. That task I shall leave to my successors. If I were in my own country, if I were a native of this country, I should have felt it my duty to wait for an opportunity to try again; to wait for times when a proposition of this kind might be more favourably received; to try another time, and another yet, to concoct

a Bill which would have some chance of being accepted. But being a stranger and a sojourner in the land, I feel that I have sufficiently done my duty in elaborating and proposing the best Bill I can; in placing before the Council a system of Municipal administration, such as, according to my lights, I think best calculated to give the people real local self-government. Since that effort has been unsuccessful, I must leave it to others to try again some other day. Therefore I have told the Viceroy most respectfully that I shall not attempt to introduce a general Municipal Bill again.

Then comes the question what we are to do with reference to the present position as affected by the paragraphs of the Viceroy's letter which I have read, and those which I shall read. My view is that we must make the most of the Municipal Acts which we have at present. No doubt, they give to the Government the power of compulsory taxation for the maintenance and construction of roads, for conservancy, for hospitals and vaccination, and for other purposes, which, under the existing law, may be carried far beyond the point to which they are now carried. My feeling is that it is well that I should observe not only the letter, but the spirit of His Excellency's decision in regard to the present Bill. It is not desirable that I should, by means of the existing Acts, attempt to increase taxation in the country.

I come then to the particular points affected by the present decision. The first point is in regard to the provision for roads. In the Acts which now have force in Bengal, it is compulsory on Municipalities to provide for the construction and maintenance of roads. It was an object of the Bill which has not been carried out to supplement the Road Cess Act of the previous session, inasmuch as by the provisions of that Act Municipalities are exempted from the rating for roads which prevails in the rest of the country. It is evidently necessary that the district roads should in their course pass through towns, and it is but fair that the people of the towns through which district roads are carried should pay for the maintenance of that portion of the roads which pass through their towns. I think I shall not be acting contrary to the spirit of the Viceroy's decision if I arrange that so much as is necessary to give effect to that equitable obligation for roads shall be charged in the Municipal Budgets of the towns through which district roads pass. So much is in our power, and I shall I hope be able by this indirect means to supplement the Road Cess Act, and to answer that the portions of district roads passing through Municipalities shall be maintained at the expense of such Municipalities.

Then we come to the subject of Police. Whatever the fate of the measure in other respects, I regret that I should have been deprived of the opportunity of making this concession to Municipalities in regard to the character and cost of Municipal Police, and thus establishing a saving which they might devote to the furtherance of other objects. But, in looking into the matter, I find that the present law will not permit us to make any material change. Act VI. of 1868, section 8, is in these words: "All police officers appointed or employed in any town shall be appointed under the provisions of Act V. of 1861, passed by the Governor General of India in Council." That is the regular Police Act. Under these circumstances, it is impossible that I can change the police system in towns. The law requires that they shall be enrolled as part of the regular District Police, and things therefore must, in this respect, remain as they are.

Then I come to a very important part of His Excellency's letter, paragraph 9, which refers to the system of self-government, which was the main object I had in placing the Bill before the Council:—

"His Excellency believes that under Act VI of 1868 and the District Road Cess Act of 1870, sufficient powers now exist for the introduction into Bengal of a system under which Municipal and local affairs may gradually come to be administered by bodies in which the people are represented, and any proposal which the Legislative Council of Bengal may make to amend Act III of 1864 in the same direction would command His Excellency's favourable consideration."

Well, I have given much consideration to that paragraph of His Excellency's letter. I may say that, the whole question of taxation apart, I should be delighted to give effect to the permission which this paragraph contains,

if I thought I could do so with reasonable prospect of success. I hold very earnest views on the subject of local self-government. I believe that the position of foreigners like ourselves in India is a somewhat false one. I believe it is our duty to educate the people, as far as in our power, to govern themselves. I believe that the power and the habit of self-government must come from below upwards; that it must come from Municipal institutions first, going upwards to higher and larger institutions. And it was very much in that view that I have been anxious to have authority to make a commencement of a scheme of local Municipal self-government. Anticipating the probability of the passing of the Bill which I had placed before the Council, and which they favourably received, I enquired by circular from various officers, directing them to sound the feelings of the people of towns and Municipalities on the subject of self-government by elected representatives, and I hold an abstract of their reports in my hand. I am quite free to confess that those reports are not very encouraging. I am aware that many officers have reported, and reported truly, that all local taxation and local rating is unpopular in Bengal as it is in most countries. I must also confess that the reports of most of these officers are generally unfavourable to any system of Municipal self-government. I find the opinion very strongly expressed, which coincides very much with my own opinion to-day expressed to you, that a voluntary system will not lead to an increase, but to a decrease of taxation. If we have elected members, "the only object (one Magistrate says) of the new class of members would be the reduction of the taxes to a minimum." The next Magistrate is of the same opinion. Another Magistrate says that if power is delegated to independent elected Commissioners, they will immediately "stop all improvements." I should myself be willing to run the risk of a check to improvements, feeling that the power of self-government is even more important than material improvement. I find, however, that the Magistrates also express the strong opinion of many whom they have consulted, as well as their own, that the people are not fit for self-government. One thinks that they "are incapable of understanding what is meant by representation." Another thinks that "the people have more faith in English officials than in their own countrymen; that they have no independence, and no sympathy with the police in the suppression of crime." At present (he goes on) "it is nearly as hard to get Municipal Commissioners as it is to get jurors;" and he thinks "the elective system is undesired and undesirable." Another Magistrate says that a meeting was called of the respectable people.—I do not know whom he calls "the respectable people,"—at which it was resolved that the scheme was "premature." The Commissioner of a great Division says that Magistrates with the help and advice of native gentlemen could do much better than elected representatives could. I will only quote the opinion of one more officer who has given a very decided opinion, namely that "self-government is a deplorable mistake in England; and if it is introduced into Balasore, roads will become impassable, and sanitation be done away with." That is a very strong opinion indeed. I am not prepared to say that there is not a great deal of truth in these observations. But the moral I would draw from them is, not that municipal institutions are in this country impossible, but that they are difficult of introduction in the present state of matters, and that they ought not to be introduced under disadvantageous circumstances which do not offer the best chances of success. I am myself convinced that, in spite of these difficulties and objections, municipal self-government is not foreign to this country, but inherent to it, being the ancient rule and habit of the Hindu race. I am convinced that these municipal institutions are in themselves most desirable. I would above all things deprecate their being tried under disadvantages which may lead to failure in their results, and so may cause discredit to the system; but I think they should be introduced when they can be introduced under circumstances which give the best and greatest chances of success.

Well, looking to see whether there are in the Acts now existing materials for such a fair trial, I find that the only Municipal Act admitting of elective institutions is Act VI of 1868. Power is there given to the local Government to cause the election of Municipal Commissioners. That power is no doubt somewhat obscurely expressed, but I believe that it exists. And if there were no other difficulties, I shall be quite prepared to give the towns in which Act VI of

1868 is in force the power of electing Municipal Commissioners. But I have said that I think it necessary if the elective principle is tried at all, that it should be introduced under the most favorable circumstances. Now, what are the circumstances under which it might be tried under that law? What are the functions of Municipal Commissioners under Act VI of 1868? I find, when I look to that Act, that the principal duties of Municipal Commissioners under the Act are defined to be "to consult and advise with the Magistrate." I find that in reality they have no independent powers at all. Under section 15 of that Act the mode of taxation is this. Not the Municipal Commissioners, but the Magistrate prepares the budget, showing what money is to be raised and expended. Then the Municipal Commissioners have the opportunity of saying what they have to say. In regard to the preparation of the budget, they have the power of tendering advice. The Magistrate prepares the budget, the Commissioners may object to the items in that budget, and the Magistrate may listen to their objections or not, as he thinks fit. The budget then goes to the Commissioner of the division, and he again may alter it; he may put into it whatever items he thinks fit. So that in reality Act VI of 1868 is throughout a compulsory Act. The taxation under that Act is compulsory. The Municipal Commissioners have only the moral power of doing what they can by argument. But they have no real power. The question is whether we really can expect that elective institutions can be fairly tried under such a system. I think not. If the Municipal Commissioners are to have no power but to consult and advise, you cannot expect that the people will take a real interest in representative institutions. If you are gradually to bring the people to appreciate the system of self-government, to lead them to take an interest in their own affairs, they must have real and practical power in their own affairs. And the greatest power of all being taxation, they must have real power in respect of taxation. I do not think that elective institutions will be fairly tried if we attempt it under a system under which we can only allow elective bodies to consult and to advise. For these reasons I am not prepared to try elective institutions under Act VI of 1868, while the people express no wish for such institutions.

Next, mention is made in the Viceroy's letter of the District Road Cess Act. It is true that under that Act provision is made for elective institutions; but the course I intended was first to try elective institutions in a small area in Municipalities, and then, if the system succeeded, to extend them to greater areas in districts. Undoubtedly, great power is vested in the District Committees under the Road Cess Act. The District Committee is the power which determines the rate and amount of taxation for roads and other means of communication. And if it were possible to entrust the choice of those Committees to popular elective bodies, I should be most ready to do so. But when I look the matter in the face, I fear that the difficulties in the way of the election of those Committees are appalling. Those who know what County elections are in England, will have little difficulty in realising what difficulty there will be in making elections in the much larger areas of districts in Bengal. An Indian district is as large as three or four ordinary Counties in England. An election for an Indian district would be something like what an election for the whole County of Yorkshire would be. Most of us have some idea what the difficulties would be if we were to attempt a really popular election in so great a tract of country. I much fear that such an election would be almost impossible to carry out satisfactorily: the difficulty quite appals me.

Then as regards the sub-committees for the sub-divisions under the Road Cess Act. There I am met with the same difficulty as that which exists in regard to Act VI of 1868, namely that the sub-committees are only administrative bodies to administer the funds assigned to them by the district committees or the Government. They have no power over the rate or amount of taxation. That is my difficulty in regard to sub-committees under the Road Cess Act. If I saw my way to the creation of elective institutions in which the people could take a real part in the management of their own affairs, I should be prepared to attempt it. But I am not very sanguine on the subject of making a first beginning with Road Cess Committees.

Finally, there is Act III of 1864. That Act does not contain any provision for elective institutions. And my impression is that, in order properly to introduce elective institutions under that Act, so radical a change in the Act would be required as would almost amount to a large Municipal Bill, such as I am not prepared to attempt. Amidst the many reports which the Government has received unfavourable to the prospects of municipal self-government, there are one or two which, if not calculated to induce one to take a very sanguine view, show that there are two or three towns in which the people are not indisposed to aid in the establishment of elective institutions. It is reported that "in Midnapore the feeling is strongly in favor of representative Government, owing to all municipal arrangements having fallen into the hands of the Joint-Magistrate." That sounds somewhat like a local and temporary reason ; but if the people of Midnapore adhere to their opinion in favour of elective institutions, I shall be very sorry that they should be disappointed. In Nuddea, it is said, the scheme seems to be popular, at least with the upper and middle classes. The Magistrate would certainly not allow elective institutions in Santipore, the inhabitants of which presented a petition for its trial, but where the supervision must necessarily be slight, and "factions are strong and bitter." I am told that factions are really strong and bitter in Santipore, and I fear it is not a place in which municipal institutions can be first tried with the best hopes of success. But the Magistrate would introduce the scheme tentatively in Kishnagur. Therefore the only two towns in which I am encourged to try elective institutions are Midnapore and Kishnagur. Both those towns are under Act III of 1864, which is not an Act admitting of elective institutions. The Viceroy has said that he is willing to consider a plan for altering Act III of 1864 in that sense. If I see my way to an alteration, which will admit of elective institutions, without attempting a radically new Bill, I shall be prepared to attempt it. But for the present any attempt at elective institutions must be of a very limited character, and confined to those few cases in which the people have expressed a wish to have such institutions.

That being so, I must, very reluctantly I say it, give up the idea of making any large attempt to introduce self-governing institutions in Bengal. It was perhaps of all the plans which I have designed my most cherished idea. I have done my best, and I must submit to the decision at which the superior authority to whom this power is entrusted has arrived. I will still hope that our work has not been entirely lost. The Viceroy has been pleased to bear testimony to the importance and usefulness of our work. I am not without hope that it may fructify another day. For the present it has come to naught. But perhaps another day may come when some such plan will not be regarded with such disfavor by the representative of Her Majesty. When the people of Bengal are a little further advanced, perhaps they will regret the opportunity of self-government which has now gone by. Even now I am not sure that when they come to think of it, some will not regret it. However, as I have said, I hope our labor is not utterly lost. In that hope I shall direct that the Bill as passed by this Council and the most important part of the proceedings in connection with the Bill, including the speeches of hon'ble members, shall be bound up in a volume, which I shall have the honor to present to the members and to those outside who may wish to possess themselves of such a treasure.

Before I sit down, there are one or two further subjects touched upon in the letter from His Excellency the Viceroy, regarding which I must say a few words as to the course I intend to follow. In paragraph 10 His Excellency makes this important remark:—

"It might be in His Excellency's opinion desirable to amend the present law, so as to enable Municipalities under Acts III of 1864, and VI of 1868, voluntarily to contribute in aid of education within their districts."

The only difficulty which strikes me is this, that the present Acts are so entirely of a compulsory nature that it would be somewhat difficult to engraft on them voluntary provisions. But the object is a great one. The people of

Bengal are so much inclined to further education, that I think they will voluntarily contribute towards education. And I shall not shrink from any difficulties not absolutely insuperable. I hope to lay before the Council a Bill which will permit the Municipalities governed by these Acts voluntarily to contribute to the promotion of education within their limits.

There is only one more important subject which I wish to notice, namely, the observations of His Excellency regarding the part of the Bill founded on Act VI of 1870, the Chowkeedaree Act. His Excellency says:—

"In consequence of reports which have recently been received of the operation of Act VI of 1870, he entertains great doubts as to the suitability of the powers given to punchayets under that Act; he thinks therefore that further experience is required before the functions of such punchayets are increased, and Municipal institutions further extended to the rural population."

It seems to me, and I think it will seem to the Council, that the objections which His Excellency has taken to the provisions of the Municipal Bill on this subject, do in fact refer, not to the reforms made upon Act VI of 1870, but to that Act itself. His Excellency's objections are to the system of village government under Act VI of 1870, and not to the improvements and reforms on that Act, which are contained in the Municipal Bill. The situation in the matter then is this. I myself have a very strong objection to the provisions of Act VI of 1870 in regard to chakran land; and I have before announced my intention not further to extend that Act in districts in which chakran lands abound. His Excellency the Viceroy has a strong objection to the whole system of that Act, to the power given to punchayets under the Act. I shall be acting in the spirit of His Excellency's views in refraining from putting that Act into operation in fresh districts at present. Then the question would be whether it would be desirable to repeal that Act, and reconsider the whole subject; or whether it could be amended by making the character of the village institutions set up more simple—simplifying the constitution and modifying the powers exercised by punchayets. I am not prepared to say which course the Government will take in that matter. We will give the subject our best consideration, and no steps will be taken to extend the operation of that Act in the meantime.

I think I have laid before the Council, as clearly as I can, the course it is proposed to follow in regard to these very important matters which are involved in the decision of the Viceroy regarding the Municipal Bill. The Council may depend on it that although I am not prepared to bring in a new General Bill, I shall not allow discouragement to prevent me from trying to make such minor improvements as may still be in my power. I shall carry out those partial improvements which His Excellency's decision permits, so far as I think they can be usefully and advantageously carried out.

Having said so much, I shall not detain the Council any longer at present, but shall leave in the hands of the Council the measures which I may place before them to give effect to the views which I have expressed.

SALT ACT AMENDMENT.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT presented the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Salt Act, 1864, and moved that it be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill in the form recommended by the Select Committee. He said the Select Committee had made a very small alteration in the Bill by introducing a few words at the end of section 1 for the purpose of defining the powers of Magistrates with reference to the Code of Criminal Procedure. He did not think he need trouble the Council with any remarks on this occasion.

The motion was agreed to.

THE HON'BLE MR. BERNARD said that a Collector in one of the Salt Districts of Bengal had sent up to the Government recommendations for the improvement of the Salt Laws. These were laid before the Government of Bengal; but it seemed to the Government that if those suggestions were to be carried out to their conclusion, the whole of the Salt Laws would have to be revised. The present Bill provided only for an immediate necessity, in order

that the trial of salt cases should not be unnecessarily prolonged, and not give unnecessary labor and trouble to the people concerned. Under these circumstances it was proposed that this Bill should be carried through, and that any question of a new general Salt Bill should be separately considered.

The clauses of the Bill were then agreed to without amendment.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT moved that the Bill be passed.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT observed that as the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill had not given notice of motion for the passing of the Bill, and there was no necessity for precipitancy, he thought the Bill might stand over to the next meeting of the Council.

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

EMBANKMENTS AND WATER-COURSES.

THE HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH moved that the Report of the Select Committee appointed to consider certain amendments in the Bill to amend the law relating to embankments and water-courses be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill; and that the clauses of the Bill be considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee. The subject, he said, had been so often before the Council that it was unnecessary for him to say any thing further on the present occasion. He had intended to make a few remarks in regard to the petition from the British Indian Association, received since the Bill came before the Council last time. But in looking over the petition he found that the questions mooted in them were more or less affected by the amendments which were to be proposed on the Bill. He therefore thought it better that the consideration of these questions should be deferred until they could be fully considered when the amendments referring to them were brought up.

THE HON'BLE DIGUMBER MITTER asked that the amendments of which he had given notice be taken up and disposed of first, because they addressed themselves so much to the leading principles of the Bill that, if any one of them were carried, it would be necessary to recast the whole Bill.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT observed that he was entirely willing to accept the proposition of the Hon'ble Member.

The motion was then agreed to.

THE HON'BLE DEGUMBER MITTER said: I have to move that in Section 6 the words from "or make" in line 5 to "water-course" in line 9 be omitted. I object to these words because they confer a power of interference on the Government Engineer which I believe to be quite repugnant to rights which a proprietor should enjoy in the management of his own estate, and which rights have been very wisely guaranteed to him by the permanent settlement. The question whether the maintenance of a particular line of embankment by a zemindar, where by the terms of the settlement the same is to be done at his own cost, is optional or compulsory, was raised so long ago as 1837, as we find from the copy of a letter from the Sudder Board of Revenue to the Government of Bengal, which, with his valuable notes on the subject of embankments, were placed in our hands by the Hon'ble Member opposite (Mr. Bernard) during the short time he was in charge of the Bill. While alluding to these documents, I cannot allow the opportunity to pass without expressing my thankfulness to the Hon'ble Member for the valuable aid he has rendered in the proper understanding of the knotty question before us, by bringing within our reach at much labour and research facts which would have been otherwise unavailable to us, and without which we would have been quite helpless in dealing with many questions of principle or of detail which the Bill under consideration raises. Apologising for the digression, I would beg to submit that amongst other questions the one about the liability of the zemindars to maintain particular lines of embankments engaged the earnest attention of the Board of Revenue in 1837, and I will, with the permission of the Council, read from their letter, dated the 2nd May 1837, the decision

come to on the subject and acquiesced in, I should mention, by the Government of the time—

"21. In Chittagong the Commissioner and Collector concur in thinking the zemindars bound by their engagements to keep up bunds and roads; the latter in that part of the country partaking very much of the nature of the former.

"Both officers state that the zemindars do not perform their engagements in this respect, and that there are no means within their knowledge of compelling them to do so.

"22. The Commissioner forwards a copy of kubooleut, such as have been signed by the zemindars of Chittagong at the decennial settlement, in proof of the liability of the zemindars 'to make and maintain the embankments, public roads, and bridges in their several estates under the terms ailbundee, kutteebundee, and poolbundee.'

"23. The Board observe, however, that the kubooleut forwarded by the Commissioner, which is said by the Collector to be precisely the same in all the zemindaries, by no means warrant the extensive liability which Mr. Harvey would throw upon the zemindars, though it certainly releases the State from the necessity of bearing the expense of embankments. The kubooleut merely says, 'I will keep up embankments regularly in my estate according to custom. Should I fail to do so, whatever loss may follow is mine only,' and if there can be any doubt of the meaning of these words, it is cleared up by what suceeeds, in which the zemindar binds himself not to withhold his revenue 'on plea of drought, inundation,' and other calamities of a like nature.

"The meaning of the engagement is indeed merely this, that the zemindar might make bunds or not, as he chose, but that if he failed, he was not to claim from the State compensation for consequent loss.

"The Commissioner has extended this, so as to consider the zemindars liable for the construction and repairs of the great military road between Commillah and Chittagong, a road which could only have been made originally at enormous expense, and which is now nearly useless for want of brick bridges, of which in a space of about eighty miles, full fifty of a large and expensive kind are absolutely required.

"Such a construction of the kubooleuts the Board conceive altogether unauthorized, and they have dwelt upon it at greater length, because the kubooleuts of Bengal generally are very similar in words, and, as they think, quite similar in spirit to that just quoted."

The Commissioner of Chittagong has subsequently explained that his opinions on this subject have undergone alteration, and that his view of the liability of the zemindars is very nearly that of the Board.

I have only to read a portion from the valuable notes of the Hon'ble Member (Mr. Bernard) to show that the liability incurred by the zemindars in other districts with respect to embankments is precisely the same as in Chittagong—"And the kubooleuts of the permanent settlement in most parts of Bengal engage that the zemindars shall maintain embankments, and that they shall accept any loss which may accrue from their non-maintenance."

Now, if the zemindar, as we find from these documents, is left unfettered by the terms of his settlement in the exercise of his own discretion in the construction and maintenance of embankments, and if in the proper exercise of this discretion he was subject to no other control than what would be imposed by a due regard to his own interests, the very best control, however, that could possibly be devised, where, may I ask, is the justice of empowering the Government Engineer with the sanction of the Collector, or the Commissioner in case of difference between the two former, to run a line of embankment at any place he liked, and compelling the zemindar or zemindars to contribute to its cost? It cannot be alleged, even if such allegations were of any weight either in law or equity against guaranteed rights accruing from contract, that the zemindars have habitually used this power to the detriment of the public or their own interest. For such an allegation will be at once negatived by the unanimous testimony borne to the fact of those permanently settled estates in Bengal being in a high state of cultivation, it being impossible to point to any tract of land in those estates which remain waste, or which is suffered to run into waste by reason of neglect to protect it by proper embankments. But however much I may object to the clause in question on the score of injustice, I cannot too sufficiently admire the tact and ingenuity displayed in its insertion in this Bill. Its utility can be only understood when it is considered in connection with Sections 41 and 45. By those sections certain embankments which have been hitherto maintained at the expense of the State, for valuable consideration at one time considered to be adequate and sufficient, are now for the

first time proposed to be abandoned to the zemindars or maintained at their cost in case any of them were required to be taken charge of by the Government Engineer. But many of those embankments happened to protect important towns and cities, such as Moorshedabad for instance; and as in case of their abandonment by Government it will be optional with the zemindars, unless otherwise provided in the Bill, to maintain them or not, and as in many instances it would be to the interest of the zemindars not to maintain them, something must be done to enforce their maintenance, whether they benefited the zemindars or not, so long as they were necessary for the protection of important towns and municipalities: and hence the necessity of the clause in question. It so happens, however, that a question involving circumstances of the same perplexity as those which the framer of the Bill had to confront, was submitted for the consideration and orders of the Board of Revenue about five and thirty years ago. But how different was the spirit then manifested in the solution of the problem, will appear from certain paragraphs of the letter to which I have already referred, and which, with your permission, I will now read:—

"26. In Moorshedabad, as already stated, the Government at present bears the whole expense of the embankment, though, except in pergunnahs Futtehsing and Rokunpore, no engagement exists binding it to such liability. The Commissioner points out this fact, and adding that the kubooleuts of the zemindars contain express stipulations for the repairs of the bunds by them, and that in two estates actual remissions* have been allowed for that very purpose, contends that the whole charge for embankments should be borne by the zemindars in rateable proportions; except only in sudder stations, where he thinks the state which is benefited by the protection of its public buildings should defray a portion.

* Amounting annually to Rs. 2,986.

"27. The Board are agreed with the Commissioner as to the non-liability of Government. They do not, however, agree with him, if, as they apprehend, he would enforce the repair of the bund by the zemindars. They look upon it as completely proved by experience, and experimented upon a very large scale,† that the inundation of the Ganges and its tributary and branch streams in Bengal is not to be repelled, but rather solicited. It is always gradual, always fertilizing, and always tends to raise the level of the country subject to its effects.

† In Rajshahye and Jessore.

"28. In Rajshahye very marked improvement has followed the abandonment of the bunds in 1819, and while much new land has arisen where formerly only existed jheels and swamps, the whole district has gradually risen above its old level, and is accommodating itself naturally and speedily to the inundations of its numerous rivers.

"29. To abandon the bunds in Moorshedabad, with exception to the two pergunnahs mentioned in my 9th paragraph, will, in the opinion of the Board, be ultimately, and at no very distant period, as beneficial as the same measure has proved elsewhere.

"30. For the protection of public stations and cantonments bunds will always be necessary, but their expense should be borne not, as suggested by the Commissioner, jointly by the State and zemindars, but by the State alone."

It would be thus seen that a proposal which by the Government of 1837 was condemned and rejected as being both arbitrary and unjust towards the zemindars, and for reasons from which it is not easy to withhold one's assent, is again brought forward and sought to be ratified by an Act of the Legislature.

There is yet another aspect, Sir, presented by this question which is deserving of notice. I mean as regards the parties who are made liable to bear the cost of the embankments which may be constructed by the Government Engineer under the power vested in him by the clause under comment. With an utter disregard for the usages, customs, and laws which have hitherto obtained upon the subject, the Bill provides that the cost of such works is to be recovered from the zemindars, who are for that purpose defined in the Bill, as also municipalities, according to the benefits they will respectively derive, or in proportion of the areas of the estates protected and benefited by such works. The zemindars, again, are to recoup themselves from their tenants of a certain class. Now, it cannot be unknown to this Council that it is not every estate in Bengal that requires protection from embankments, but when such work is necessary, it forms a very heavy item of outgoings from the assets of the estate. In the formation of the permanent settlement, the expenditure really incurred in any estate under that head was taken into account when the revenue payable to Government by such estates was determined. For instance, estate A is situate on the bank of a mountain torrent, liable to be

swept away without a moment's warning, or on the bank of a salt creek liable to be inundated by the overflow of the creek; such an estate must be protected by proper embankments, the cost for the maintenance of which, along with costs of collection, &c., was taken into account when the Government revenue was assessed upon it. But not so in the case of an estate like B, which is situate further inland, and which, though liable to be inundated, and injured like A by the same mountain torrent or salt creek, was yet exempt from the necessity of maintaining embankments, inasmuch as the embankment of the estate A sufficed to give it the required protection. Consequently, in assessing the Government revenue on estate B, no allowance was made on account of embankments or *poolbundie khurcha*. In fact, the allowance made for embankment charges in respect of the estate A was for the common benefit of A and B, as also other estates similarly situated as B. Now, the effect of the apportionment clauses in the case of A and B is, that the proprietor of A will be relieved from his just liability of bearing the whole cost of the embankment which he incurred for valuable consideration had and received when the estate was permanently settled with him—while the owner of B, who never incurred any such liability, and to whom no allowance had been made on account of embankment charges, will nevertheless be burdened with such charges simply to relieve A. The justice, again, of permitting the owners of A and B to recoup themselves from their ryots, is equally, if not more, questionable. The implied understanding with every tenant in Bengal is, that his zemindar is to afford the customary protection to his land by the maintenance of proper embankments for the whole estate where necessary, and that he is not to be charged additionally for that protection. It is upon this understanding that the settlement in every instance is made with the ryot, and the rent and bonus payable by him are fixed. Under such circumstances, I think it will be highly improper to arm the zemindar by an Act of the Legislature with the power of enforcing fresh demands in violation of the terms of his contract with the ryot—a contract which, though not in every instance reduced to writing, is yet sufficiently solemn and binding, and which no zemindar can repudiate without committing a gross breach of faith.

As for the difficulties which have to be encountered in giving practical effect to the apportionment clauses of the Bill with any eye to justice, I need not now say much. One of them is at the last moment attempted to be got over by the insertion of two new sections, as I find from the notice of amendments given by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. But there are others, and very serious ones too, which have scarcely yet suggested themselves to the Hon'ble Member, but which it is not my purpose at present to dilate upon. Perhaps the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill will cite the Act for the acquisition of land for embankment purposes passed by this Council in 1866, and the Hooghly and Burdwan Drainage Act, for a precedent in support of the apportionment clauses of the Bill. But the last mentioned Act has scarcely yet been enforced; and as regards the first, it will be difficult for him to mention one instance in which the rule of proportion enunciated therein has been practically tested in finding the relative measure of benefit derivable to land from protective works. I had myself, about two years ago, applied for the construction of a sluice in a public embankment under the provisions of that Act, as the work was to benefit others equally with myself. But I subsequently discovered that the difficulty was so great, either in causing the work to be expeditiously taken in hand, or afterwards deriving any pecuniary relief from the apportionment clauses of the Act, that I withdrew my application and substituted it by another under Act XXXII of 1855, tendering at the same time half the estimated cost of the work. It was evidently in view of these insurmountable difficulties and obligations arising out of contract between the State and the zemindar, or between the latter and his ryots, that the Legislature of 1855, while empowering the Government Engineer to take charge of certain existing private embankments, wisely abstained from ruling that the cost of such works should be recoverable from any others than the zemindar who had hitherto maintained the same. I should also mention that, evidently in view of the contract existing

in respect of embankments, the same Legislature also very wisely ruled for the grant of compensation for damages which any one may sustain by reason of this interference with private rights, as a reference to section 9, clause 1, Act XXXII of 1855 will show. So that, Sir, the clause in question is not only unjust in itself, as involving a direct encroachment upon the rights guaranteed to zemindars by the permanent settlement and upheld by successive legislative enactments, but leading to a cumulative wrong, as I have already, though feebly, attempted to show.

THE HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH said, instead of confining himself to the amendment proposed in regard to section 6, the Hon'ble Member had in his remarks ranged over the whole of the amendments which he proposed to introduce in the Bill. The Hon'ble Member first objected to the power given to the Engineer to construct new embankments, and he then went into the question of the embankments maintained by Government (section 41), and the liability of zemindars to maintain embankments. He then proceeded to the question as to the Government paying half the cost of sluices to be constructed in embankments maintained by Government. And, lastly, he proceeded to remark with regard to the provisions of the Hooghly and Burdwan Drainage Act. MR. SCHALCH thought it would be more easy for the despatch of business if we confined our consideration to the first amendment, and then took up the Hon'ble Member's remarks in regard to the other sections as the particular sections to which they referred came before the Council.

Confining his remarks to the Hon'ble Member's observations in regard to section 6, MR. SCHALCH begged to observe that the present proposal was not a new one. It existed now under the existing Act XXXII of 1855, section 4, clause 3 of which provided that the superintendent of embankments "may also, when necessary, change the line of any public embankment or make a new embankment." We were now merely continuing in more specific terms a power which was already existing. With regard to the exercise of that power, it would appear from the Hon'ble Member's remarks that if the Engineer could not do it on his own motion without further consultation or proceedings, he had only to determine the matter with the Collector. But the Council would see that strict provision had been made whereby notice was to be given to all parties in any way concerned in the construction of a new embankment; that with that notice the Engineer was bound to forward a statement showing the object of the embankment and its position in regard to the estates which it would benefit. Notice was then to be given to all parties concerned, and opportunity was afforded to them for raising objections. It was then the duty of the Collector fully to inquire into the matter and give his opinion in regard to those objections. If the Collector disagreed with the Engineer as to the utility or necessity of the work, the matter could be referred either by the Engineer or the parties concerned to the Commissioner of the division; or if the Collector agreed with the Engineer as to the necessity of the work, an appeal would still lie to the Commissioner, and from the decision of the Commissioner to the Board of Revenue, and, under the general supervision exercised by the Government, from the Board of Revenue to the Government. It would therefore be seen that the power given to the Engineer to construct new embankments was, as far as it could possibly be, sufficiently guarded by the safeguards laid down. It was not to be supposed that all these authorities would be actuated by insufficient motives. If the Engineer, actuated by professional motives, should think an embankment necessary, it was not to be supposed that the Collector would support him on insufficient grounds; and if the Collector supported the Engineer without sufficient grounds, it was not to be supposed that the Commissioner of the division and the Board of Revenue would assent to the proposition. In fact we had thrown over the consent of the Collector a power of appeal which might be thought by many extremely injudicious and a great hampering of the executive power. MR. SCHALCH did not think any one could deny honestly that cases might arise in which new embankments might be absolutely necessary. The Hon'ble Member had said that the zemindar had a right to make what embankments he liked; that the loss arising from the non-maintenance of embankments would be his own, and that any interference with his right was unjust and improper. Possibly there might be cases in which it would be necessary to interfere. A zemindar might do what was a matter of great interest to himself in a pecuniary

point of view, but what might result in great loss or injury to other parties. In cases of that kind we did want the interference of a third party to see justice done. One of the cases which gave rise to the introduction of the Bill was that of a zemindar who made a bund which benefited himself, but did great injustice to other parties, and resulted in inundation spreading largely throughout the adjoining land. Again, the zemindar was in many cases no longer a land owner but merely a receiver of rent, and consequently unable to carry out his alleged right to construct a new enbankment even for his own interest. He might possibly have under him putneedars, dur-putneedars, and other putnee-holders in the third and fourth degrees, who might all object to the zemindar entering on their lands and to the construction of the bund. Consequently, if a new bund was wanted, and if it was left to the zemindar to make it, he might say he had no power to do so; he was merely a rent receiver. If therefore the Council were not prepared to say that in no case were new embankments to be made, the power given in section 6 must be maintained.

He would not go into the other questions upon which the Hon'ble Member remarked; they would be much better discussed when the amendments to which they referred came before the Council. MR. SCHALCH would now urge that the power here given was not a new one; that new embankments might in some cases be necessary; that circumstances might arise in which they could not be made by the zemindar, and that consequently some such power as that proposed to be given by the section under discussion must be placed in the hands of the Engineer. That being his opinion, he should certainly say that the portion of the section proposed to be omitted should be maintained.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT adjourned the further consideration of the Bill to the next meeting of the Council.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 15th instant.

CULTIVATION LEASES IN ASSAM.

No. 565, dated Calcutta, the 10th February 1873.

From—J. WARE EDGAR, ESQ., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter No. 506A of the 30th December 1872, submitting a letter from Messrs. Robertson, Orr, Harris, and Francis, in which they state that some of their clients contemplate the purchase of tea gardens in Assam held under annual leases, and wish to ascertain whether the cultivator, at the expiration of each year, has a right, legal or equitable, to the renewal of such lease.

2. In reply I am to point out that under chapter V of the Assam Settlement Rules, it is in the option of the occupant of any holding, the assessment of which has been fixed, to take a lease of it for any period not exceeding ten years (clause 1);* such lease, it will be observed, guarantees the occupant against any enhancement of the assessment during the period of its currency (clause 2);† and it is also heritable and transferable on the condition that all transfers are registered in the office of the Deputy Commissioner (clause 5).‡

Clause 5 of chapter IV§ provides that the settlement of all lands that are found occupied shall be made with the occupant ryots.

3. Messrs. Robertson, Orr, Harris, and Francis may therefore be informed that their clients can get, under chapter V, a ten years' lease of their tea lands, and that they can, under chapter IV clause 5, make sure of its renewal on the expiry of the term.

* When the assessment has been fixed in any holding, it shall be in the option of the occupant of such holding to take a lease of it for any period not exceeding ten years.

† A lease so given shall guarantee the occupant against any enhancement of the assessment during the period of its currency.

‡ Holdings so settled with the ryots shall be heritable and transferable on the condition that all transfers are registered in the office of the Deputy Commissioner.

§ The settlement of all lands which are found occupied shall be made with the occupant ryots; the rates of assessment shall be fixed for the term of the settlement, but shall be liable to alteration in future settlements.

Prices Current of Food-grains and Salt in the undermentioned Districts of Bengal on the 31st January 1873.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE BY THE SEER OF 80 TOLAHS.

DIVISION.		DISTRICTS.	Wheat. Present return.	Wheat. Next preceding return.	Wheat. Corresponding return of last year.	Barley. Present return.	Barley. Next preceding return.	Barley. Corresponding return of last year.	Rice, best sort. Present return.	Rice, best sort. Next preceding return.	Rice, best sort. Corresponding return of last year.	Rice, common. Present return.	Rice, common. Next preceding return.	Rice, common. Corresponding return of last year.	Bajra. Present return.	Bajra. Next preceding return.	Bajra. Corresponding return of last year.	Jowar. Present return.	Jowar. Next preceding return.	Jowar. Corresponding return of last year.	Gram. Present return.	Gram. Next preceding return.	Gram. Corresponding return of last year.	Salt. Present return.	Salt. Next preceding return.	Salt. Corresponding return of last year.	REMARKS.
		BENGAL.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	
		Western Districts.																									
Burdwan	1	Burdwan	11 8	12 1	16 8	22 0	22 0	27 8	19 8	18 4	26 0	22 8	19 0	29 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 0	22 0	20 12	9 8	9 4	9 4	
	2	Bancoorah	13 8	14 8	17 8	18 12	18 12	...	17 8	18 0	20 8	19 0	20 4	28 4	30 8	30 8	...	37 8	39 0	33 0	19 0	19 0	18 12	8 8	8 8	8 10	
	3	Beerbhoom	13 0	12 8	16 0	17 0	...	...	19 0	18 0	21 0	24 0	24 0	29 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 8	22 0	22 8	8 8	9 0	8 8	
	4	Midnapore	10 8	10 8	16 0	...	...	...	22 0	22 0	21 0	26 0	26 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	18 8	8 12	8 12	8 8	
	5	Hooghly	12 8	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	15 0	18 0	17 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 8	21 0	9 0	9 0	9 8	
		Howrah	14 0	14 0	15 0	20 0	20 0	...	16 8	16 0	13 0	20 0	20 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	
		Central Districts.																									
Presidency	6	24-Pergunnahs	12 1	12 2	13 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	8 0	8 0	...	17 0	17 1	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 2	17 2	17 3	8 3	8 3	8 3	
	7	Nuddea	13 5½	13 5½	16 0	32 0	32 0	35 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 10	24 10	26 11	8 14	8 14	8 10	
	8	Jessore	12 0	12 5	13 8	...	...	...	20 0	17 12	20 0	29 0	26 12	29 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	21 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	
Rajshahye	9	Moorshedabad	15 0	17 0	18 0	...	...	...	14 0	13 0	19 0	22 0	22 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	26 0	26 0	8 12	8 12	8 4	
	10	Dinagepore	12 0	11 0	11 5	22 5	22 5	25 0	23 0	24 0	27 0	28 0	30 0	33 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	24 0	7 5	7 5	8 0	
	11	Maldah	14 0	13 8	19 0	35 0	33 12	38 0	22 0	22 0	23 0	23 0	23 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	19 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	
	12	Rajshahye	13 8	15 0	13 8	...	...	...	18 12	10 0	16 8	24 0	24 6	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 4	26 8	...	8 2½	8 2½	...	
	13	Rungpore	15 0	13 1	22 8	...	...	...	16 5	13 1	15 0	30 0	30 0	29 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 10	11 13	20 4	7 6	7 6	7 13	
	14	Bograh	12 0	13 5	17 0	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	20 0	37 0	32 0	35 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 8	18 0	8 0	8 0	7 12	
	15	Pubna	14 0	15 9	24 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	15 0	30 0	30 0	27 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 4	26 4	22 8	8 4	8 8	8 12	
Cooch Behar	16	Darjeeling	6 0	6 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	19 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	15 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	10 0	8 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	
	17	Julpigoree	10 0	10 0	12 0	...	...	...	18 0	14 0	16 0	23 0	20 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	...	6 0	6 0	6 0	
		Cooch Behar.*																									
		Eastern Districts.																									
Dacca	18	Dacca	12 0	13 0	15 0	40 0	35 0	30 0	21 0	21 0	22 0	32 0	32 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	18 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	
	19	Furreedpore	20 0	21 0	30 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	15 0	27 0	26 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	22 0	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	
	20	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 8	16 0	16 0	29 0	28 8	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	8 0	
	21	Mymensing	11 0	12 0	20 0	...	...	...	22 8	22 0	22 8	32 0	32 0	33 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	18 0	8 12	8 8	8 8	
	22	Sylhet	11 0	11 0	13 0	...	...	...	24 0	30 8	24 8	35 0	40 0	35 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	19 4	17 0	8 0	7 0	9 0	
	23	Cachar	9 2	9 6	11 6	...	...	...	26 10	26 10	21 5	30 8	32 0	29 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 4	15 4	10 0	8 6	8 6	8 10	
Chittagong	24	Chittagong	12 0	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	18 0	17 0	16 0	26 0	26 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	17 0	9 0	9 4	7 0	
	25	Noakhally	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	16 0	18 0	27 0	25 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	
	26	Tipperah	10 0	12 0	13 0 to 14 0	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	20 0	32 8	32 8	32 0 to 35 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	...	8 12	9 0	8 8 to 8 12	
	27	Chittagong Hill Tracts.*																									
		Hill Tipperah	11 4	11 4	...	...	...	...	24 6	26 6	...	40 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 6	10 4	...	8 0	8 0	...	
		BEHAR.																									
Patna	28	Patna	16 0	16 0	24 8	35 0	30 0	29 15	21 8	23 0	...	24 0	25 0	22 10	...	...	...	35 8	34 0	33 7	33 0	32 0	26 12	8 0	8 0	8 0	
	29	Gya	13 0	14 0	20 0	36 0	35 0	37 8	11 8	12 0	14 0	18 8	19 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	23 8	7 8	7 8	7 0	
	30	Shahabad	14 0	14 0	19 0	30 0	30 0	29 0	12 0	11 0	13 0	19 0	19 0	20 0	...	...	...	29 0	29 0	...	30 0	30 0	24 0	8 8	8 8	8 8	
	31	Tirhoot	14 0	14 0	20 0	25 0	25 0	24 0	21 0	21 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 8	24 0	24 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	
	32	Sarun	13 8	14 0	19 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	22 0	22 0	19 0	...	...	...	32 0	31 0	23 8	27 8	28 0	25 0	8 0	8 0	7 12	
	33	Chumparun	14 0	15 0	23 0	28 0	29 0	31 0	13 0	12 0	11 0	27 0	27 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	22 0	7 4	7 4	7 0	
Bhaugulpore	34	Monghyr	16 8	17 8	19 9	36 7	39 9	...	13 6	13 6	15 7	18 9	17 8	22 0	...	...	...	31 6	16 7	29 4	33 6	32 5	...	8 4	8 4	8 4	
	35	Bhaugulpore	13 14	14 8	20 3	22 11	22 11	30 5	17 11	18 15	24 0	22 11	21 7	27 12	...	...	...	35 5	36 10	32 13	27 12	27 12	27 10	8 3	8 3	8 3	
	36	Purneah	11 0	17 0	20 0	40 0	40 0	29 0	25 0	25 0	31 0	28 0	28 0	35 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	26 0	30 0	8 0	8 0	7 5	
	37	Sonthal Pergunnahs.*																									
		ORISSA.																									
Orissa	38	Cuttack	13 2	15 12	18 0	...	...	...	26 4	26 4	17 1	31 8	34 2	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 14	31 8	31 0	8 8	8 8	9 0	
	39	Pooree	15 12	14 7	10 8	...	...	...	24 15	26 4	21 0	29 11	31 8	23 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 10	18 6	23 10	9 14	9 0	8 9	
	40	Balasore	12 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	...	34 0	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	...	9 0	9 0	...	
		CHOTA NAGPORE.																									
		South-West Frontier Agency.																									
Chota Nagpore	41	Hazareebaugh	12 8	14 0	22 2	23 0	24 0	30 8	11 0	12 0	13 0	17 0	17 0	24 8	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	30 0	21 8	24 0	20 4	7 8	7 4	7 0	
	42	Lohardugga	10 0	11 0	14 0	18 0	20 0	...	16 0	19 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	...	6 5	6 5	6 10	
	43	Singbhoom	14 0	16 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	24 0	24 0	32 0	30 0	30 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	24 0	6 8	6 0	6 8	
	44	Manbhoom	11 0	11 0	15 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	20 0	26 0	25 0	28 0	...	...	...	45 0	40 0	40 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	7 8	7 8	8 8	
		ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.																									
Assam	45	Gowalpara	16 0	20 0	30 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	14 0	25 0	22 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	13 0	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	
	46	Kamroop	13 0	13 0	20 0	...	...	...	16 0	13 0	10 0	25 0	20 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	13 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	
	47	Durrung	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	8 0	21 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	6 8	6 8	7 0	
	48	Nowgong	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	21 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 0	6 8	6 8	7 0	
	49	Seebsaugor	13 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	12 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	
	50	Lukhimpore	10 0	10 0	13 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 0	8 0	8 0	6 0	6 0	5 8	
	51	Naga Hills.*																									
	52	Khasi and Jynteah Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	...	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	...	5 0	5 0	...	
	53	Garo Hills.*																									

* Return not received.

Published for general information.

H. J. S. Cotton,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Calcutta,
The 11th February 1873.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 8th February 1873.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.						
	Western Districts.	1873.				
Burdwan Divn. 1	Burdwan ...	Feb. 11th*	Nil.	Weather fair ...	Winter cereals being gathered. Sugarcane good. Grain market same as before.	Fever abating remarkably.
2	Bancoorah ..	„ 8th	Nil.	Dry and cold; perceptibly warmer during the latter part of the week.	The rubee crops continue promising. Some of the crops have been cut, and sugarcane is still being cut.	
3	Beerbhoom ..	„ 8th	Nil.	Dry and seasonable ...	Prospects of winter crops fair; would be bettered by a little rain.	
4	Midnapore ..	„ 8th	Nil.	Cool and fine ..	Fair.	
5	Hooghly ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fair, cool in the mornings; wind south-east.	Winter crops good. Some of the crops have been cut.	
	Howrah ..	„ 8th	Nil.	Clear; no rain ...	There is now no paddy in the fields excepting only one place. The sugarcane crop, which is being cut, is a good one.	
	Central Districts.					
Presidency Divn. 6	24-Pergunnahs ..	„ 11th	Nil.	Moderately cold. Fogs occasionally.	The late paddy harvest is nearly over. Mustard is being gathered; other cold weather crops are progressing favorably.	Fever abating, but cholera still continues in many parts of the district. It is, however, abating in Barasat and Busseerhaut subdivisions.
7	Nuddea ..	„ 8th	Nil.	Seasonable ...	Generally favorable.	
8	Jessore ..	„ 8th	Nil.	Clear and cold ...	Good.	
9	Moorshedabad ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fair, cool, and seasonable.	Boro dhan is being sown. A grub is reported to be doing injury to mustard in thanna Sooty. Mustard is being reaped. Other crops doing pretty well, but want of rain is still felt.	
10	Dinagepore ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	Return not received.
11	Maldah ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Weather dry, getting daily warmer; strong westerly winds. Thermometer from 62 to 75; Barometer 29·850 to 29·600.	Sorisa is being reaped. Other crops of the season are in good condition, and a 14-anna outturn is expected. Boro seed is being sown.	
Rajshahye Division. 12	Rajshahye ..	„ 8th	0·15	Rain fell at the beginning of the week, and the weather has since been cool and pleasant.	The amun and ropa paddy is being harvested. The rubee crops look promising. Mulberry is flourishing. Arahar and sugarcane are good. Ganja seems very good.	
13	Rungpore ..	„ 18th	Nil.	Getting warm ...	Mustard good. Other crops cut.	
14	Bograh ..	„ 8th	Nil.	Cool and pleasant ...	In the north-western or main rice tract the crop has been an excellent one. The sugarcane in the north is extensive and extremely fine, and cutting has begun. Ganja promises well. The minor cold weather crops will not yield largely.	District healthy.
15	Pubna ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Weather fair and clear.	All the cold weather crops doing well.	

* Telegram of the 11th February received on the same day.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.—(*Contd.*)						
	Central Districts.—(Contd.)	1873.				
Cooch Behar Divn. 16	Darjeeling ..	Feb. 8th	·02	Fair ...	Wheat, barley and phaphur crops are progressing favorably in the hills. Cownie and samah have just been sown. In the plains there are no crops at present; the land is being ploughed.	
17	Julpigoree ..	„ 8th	Nil.	Bright; much warmer	Tobacco, mustard, til, kulti dal, and thakri kalai, promising.	
	Cooch Behar ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fine ...	Sowing of cheena, and ploughing for early rice crop, are going on. Tobacco continues to promise well. Mustard seed will not probably be a very full crop.	
	Eastern Districts.					
Dacca Division. 18	Dacca ...	„ 11th*	Nil.	Weather fair and dry.	Prospects of crops favorable. Rain wanted for early safflower, which is not likely to be good.	
19	Furreedpore ..	„ 8th	Nil.	Weather dry and cold	The rubee crop is suffering from the continued want of rain.	
20	Backergunge ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Cold and fair ...	Good. Paddy harvest pretty well over.	
21	Mymensing ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Weather generally fine and seasonable. No appreciable rainfall at sudder station; a fall of 0·8 reported at Attea sub-division.	Mustard has been gathered and has not been more than an average, though the area sown was larger than usual. Hardly any crops now on the ground but pulses and cheena. These are doing well, but would be better for a little rain.	Health of the district improved. Small-pox has not entirely disappeared.
22	Sylhet ..	„ 1st	Nil.	Generally cool. Hot now and then.	About 15 annas of the boro dhan have been planted out.	
23	Cachar ..	„ 1st	Nil.	Getting warmer ...	No crops on the ground.	
Chittagong Divn. 24	Chittagong ..	„ 1st	Nil.	Fine, but hazy. Wind generally from north.	Paddy crop gathered with a good outturn. Reports of cold weather crops (kalai, chillies, onions, sugarcane, &c.,) are favorable.	Cholera still reported from the interior, but appears to be decreasing.
25	Noakhally ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Fair weather throughout the week. High north wind at noon. Extreme variations of temperature.	Cold weather crops good.	
26	Tipperah ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fine	Cold weather crops promise well.	
27	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Jan. 25th	Nil	Cold and bracing ...	Cotton crop may be said to have been harvested. Mustard is ripening.	
	Hill Tipperah ...	Feb. 1st	Nil.	Dry, clear, and cold ...	Continue good.	
BEHAR.						
Patna Divn. 28	Patna ...	Feb. 11th*	Nil.	Seasonable ...	Rubee crops doing well. Mustard, moosoor and peas are being reaped at some places.	Health of the district is good.
29	Gya ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fine, but rather cloudy ...	The rubee crops are doing well, though somewhat in want of rain in some places. Opium is doing well.	

* Telegram of the 11th February received on the same day.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BEHAR.—(*Contd.*)		1873.				
Patna Divn.—(*Contd.*) 30	Shahabad ...	Feb. 8th	Nil.	Weather warmer, cloudy, and threatening, with east wind to-day.	No particular change to note since last return. Crops are generally doing well.	
31	Tirhoot ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Cold and seasonable..	The rubee crops on the whole are promising, but rain is wanted. No change since last week.	
32	Sarun ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fine and seasonable, but cloudy on Saturday.	The rubee crops are fair on the whole. Early mustard is being reaped. The poppy crop is in flower in some places.	
33	Chumparun ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fair. Warm in the middle of the day.	The prospects of the rubee crops continue fair; but a little rain would be very beneficial, as the fields are in want of moisture.	
Bhaugulpore Divn. 34	Monghyr ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fair, growing warmer.	Continue very good indeed.	
35	Bhaugulpore ...	„ 11th	Nil.	Weather much warmer.	Rain wanted everywhere.	
36	Purneah ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Seasonable ...	A good deal of tori crop is now reaped. Khasarie, wheat, and tobacco, would be benefited by rain.	Fever does not seem to be quite so prevalent.
37	Sonthal Pergunnahs...	„ 8th	Nil.	Weather getting warm.	Mustard crop gathered. On the whole the yield has not been so good as the crop on the ground promised.	
ORISSA.						
Orissa Divn. 38	Cuttack ...	...	...	.....	.....	Return not received.
39	Pooree ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Fine	Crops doing well. No change calling for notice.	
40	Balasore ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Seasonable ...	Flourishing.	
CHOTA NAGPORE.						
	South-West Frontier Agency.					
41	Hazareebaugh ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Slightly cloudy during the week, but no rain.	Crops promising, but would be benefited by a little rain.	Cholera reported as having made its appearance in Giridi. Small-pox still continues prevalent in various parts of the district.
42	Lohardduggah ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Bright; morning and evening cold.	The crops in the sudder subdivision promise fairly, but a good shower of rain is wanted. The reports from Palamow show that the cereals are not doing well, whilst the pulses promise to be a good crop.	
43	Singbhoom ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Seasonable ...	Favorable	One case of small-pox in the town of Chaibasa reported.
44	Maunbhoom ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fair, but warmer ...	Favorable.	
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.						
45	Goalparah ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Clear and dry, except 1st February, which is cloudy.	Pulses of all sorts have been reaped; outturn good. Cutting of mustard still continues. Cotton reported partially injured.	
46	Kamroop ...	„ 10th*	Nil.	The week was much warmer, and the days were occasionally cloudy.	Mustard seed is being gathered in and sugarcane being cut. Pulses promise well.	Public health good.

* Telegram of the 10th February received on the 11th.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.—(*Contd.*)		1873.				
47	Durrung ...	Feb. 1st	Nil.	Cloudy and foggy; north-east wind prevailing.	The dhan crop is housed, and sugarcane is being crushed, and bids fair to turn out well.	
48	Nowgong ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Clear, cool, and seasonable weather.	A bumper crop of kalai has been gathered in. The mustard and sugarcane crops promise well. Land being prepared in some places for the next aoos dhan crop. Pruning of tea bushes still being carried on.	
49	Seebsaugor ...	„ 1st	Nil.	The weather cold, with mornings generally foggy and evenings fair. Rains none.	Satisfactory ...	Cholera decreasing.
50	Luckimpore ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Weather dry and warmer than last week; clouding up for rain towards the end of the week, and rain threatening on the 1st February. At North Luckimpore the weather is seasonable.	State of the crops favorable.	Public health good.
51	Naga Hills ...	Jan. 25th	0·01	Clear and fine throughout the district.	The hill men are busy in cutting their jooms.	
52	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	Feb. 1st	Nil.	Temperature has been mild. Early in the week rain threatened, but it cleared off.	The people have commenced turning up the soil both in the high land and in the low grounds. There are no crops under cultivation.	
53	Garo Hills ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	Return not received.

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA,
The 11th February 1873.

H. J. S. COTTON,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

Division.	District.	Station.	Rain from 19th to 25th Jan. 1873.	Rain from 26th Jan. to 1st Feb. 1873.	Rain from 1st January 1873.		Remarks.
					Inches.	Up to date.	
BENGAL.			Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	1873.	
	Western Districts.						
Burdwan.	Burdwan	Burdwan	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	1st Feb.	
		Cutwa	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Culna	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Bood-Bood	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Raneegunge	ditto	ditto	0·10	ditto.	
		Jehanabad	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Bancoorah	Bancoorah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Beerbhoom	Sooree	ditto	ditto	0·02	ditto.	
	Midnapore	Midnapore	0·18	ditto	0·18	ditto.	
		Tumlook	0·50	ditto	0·50	ditto.	
		Gurbetta	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Contai (Dy. Collr.'s Office)	ditto	Not rec.	ditto	25th Jan.	
		Contai (Exe. Engr.'s Office)	Not rec.	ditto	ditto	4th Jan.	
	Hooghly	Hooghly	Nil.	Nil.	ditto	1st Feb.	
		Serampore	0·05	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
	Howrah	Howrah	0·05	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
	Central Districts.						
Presidency.	24-Pergunnahs	Saugor Island	Nil	ditto	Nil.	ditto	
		Calcutta	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Alipore (Dispensary)	0·10	ditto	0·10	ditto.	
		Alipore (Jail)	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Busseerhaut	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Baraset	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Diamond Harbour	0·45	ditto	0·45	ditto.	
		Barripore	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Satkherah	0·20	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
		Barrackpore	0·07	ditto	0·07	ditto.	
		Dum-Dum	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Nuddea	Kishnaghur	ditto	Not rec.	ditto	25th Jan.	
		Bongong	0·11	ditto	0·11	ditto.	
		Meherpore	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Chooadanga	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Kooshtea	0·24	ditto	0·24	ditto.	
		Ranaghat	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Jessore	Jessore	0·16	Nil.	0·16	1st Feb.	
		Nurail	0·80	ditto	0·80	ditto.	
		Khoolneah	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Jenidah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Bagirhaut	Not rec.	Not rec.	ditto	18th Jan.	
		Magoorah	Nil.	Nil.	ditto	1st Feb.	
Rajshahye.	Moorshedabad	Berhampore	0·10	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
		Ramporehaut	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		City Moorshedabad	0·07	ditto	0·14	ditto.	
		Jungipore	0·40	ditto	0·83	ditto.	
		Azimgunge	0·08	ditto	0·13	ditto.	
	Dinagepore	Dinagepore	Nil.	ditto	0·59	ditto.	
	Maldah	Maldah	0·18	ditto	0·45	ditto.	
	Rajshahye	Beauleah	0·25	ditto	0·48	ditto.	
		Nattore	0·23	ditto	0·51	ditto.	
	Rungpore	Rungpore	Nil.	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
		Bhowanigunge	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Titalya	ditto	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
	Bograh	Bograh	0·22	ditto	0·22	ditto.	
	Pubna	Pubna	0·06	ditto	0·06	ditto.	
		Serajgunge	0·07	0·10	0·17	ditto.	Not received 5th to 18th January.
Cooch Behar.	Darjeeling	Darjeeling (Telegraph Office)	Not rec.	Not rec.	Nil.	15th Jan.	
		Darjeeling (Hospital)	Nil.	0·02	0·02	1st Feb.	
	Julpigoree	Julpigoree	ditto	Nil.	0·05	ditto.	
		Fallacotta	ditto	ditto	0·14	ditto.	
		Boda	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Cooch Behar Tributary State	Cooch Behar	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Bhutan Dooars	Buxa	ditto	ditto	0·44	ditto.	
	Eastern Districts.						
Dacca.	Dacca	Dacca (Telegraph Office)	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Dacca (Hospital)	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	Not received 12th to 18th January.
		Moonshegunge	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	Ditto ditto.
	Furreedpore	Manickgunge	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	Ditto ditto.
		Furreedpore	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Goalundo	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Backergunge	Burrisaul	0·59	ditto	0·59	ditto.	
		Perozepore	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Madaripore	0·05	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
		Patoakhally	Not rec.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	Not received 19th to 25th Jan.
		Dowlat Khan	0·22	ditto	0·22	ditto.	
	Mymensing	Mymensing	Nil.	ditto	0·10	ditto.	
		Jamalpore	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Atteah	0·20	ditto	0·24	ditto.	
		Kishoregunge	0·20	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
	Sylhet	Sylhet	0·15	ditto	0·83	ditto.	Not received 1st to 4th Jan.
	Cachar	Cachar	Nil.	ditto	1·04	ditto.	
		Hylakandy	0·70	Not rec.	1·80	25th Jan.	Not received 1st to 11th Jan.
		Koyah	Nil.	ditto	0·47	ditto.	
Chittagong.	Chittagong	Chittagong (Telegraph Office)	0·10	Nil.	0·20	1st Feb.	
		Chittagong (Jail)	0·12	ditto	0·25	ditto.	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Cox's Bazar	Nil.	Not rec.	0·90	25th Jan.	
		Rungamutee Hill	ditto	Nil.	0·49	1st Feb.	
	Noakhally	Noakhally	0·01	ditto	0·01	ditto.	
	Tipperah	Comillah	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Brahmanbariah	0·02	ditto	0·02	ditto.	
	Hill Tipperah	Hill Tipperah	0·29	ditto	0.29	ditto.	

Division.	District.	Station.	Rain from 19th to 25th Jan. 1875.	Rain from 26th Jan. to 1st February 1875.	Rain from 1st January 1873. Inches.	Rain from 1st January 1873. Up to date.	Remarks.
	BEHAR.		Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	1875.	
Patna.	Patna	Patna	0·01	0·02	6·21	1st Feb.	
		Behar	0·16	Nil.	6·55	ditto.	
		Barh	0·11	ditto ..	6·11	ditto.	
		Dinapore... Jail	Nil.	ditto ..	6·21	ditto.	
		Dinapore... Cantonment	ditto ..	ditto ..	Nil.	ditto.	
	Gya	Gya	0·11	ditto ...	6·17	ditto.	
		Nowadah	0·22	ditto ...	6·32	ditto.	
		Aurungabad	0·12	ditto ...	6·12	ditto.	
		Jehanabad	Not rec.	Not rec.	6·10	18th Jan.	
	Shahabad	Arrah	Nil.	Nil.	6·32	1st Feb.	
		Sasseram	ditto ...	6·11	6·11	ditto.	
		Buxar	0·10	0·10	6·40	ditto.	
		Bhubooah	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	ditto ...	Not received 5th to 11th Jan.
	Tirhoot	Mozufferpore	ditto ...	ditto ...	2·20	ditto.	
		Durbangah	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·02	ditto ...	Not received 1st to 4th January.
		Hajipore	ditto ...	Not rec.	0·15	22th Jan.	
		Mudhubani	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·18	ditto.	
		Seetamaree	ditto ...	Nil.	0·20	1st Feb. ...	
		Tajpore	Not rec.	ditto ...	0·25	ditto	Not received 1st to 4th and 12th to 25th January.
	Sarun	Chuprah	0·16	ditto ...	0·29	ditto.	
		Sewan	0·10	Not rec.	0·34	25th Jan.	Not received 1st to 4th January.
	Chumparun	Motcehari	0·80	Nil.	0·90	1st Feb.	
		Bettiah	Nil.	0·25	0·25	ditto.	
Bhaugulpore.	Mon hyr	Monghyr	0·13	Nil.	0·34	ditto.	
		Begoosera	0·47	ditto ...	0·47	ditto ...	Not received 5th to 11th January.
		Jamooie	0·20	ditto ..	0·46	ditto.	
	Bhaugulpore	Bhaugulpore	0·17	ditto ...	0·40	ditto.	
		Soopool	Nil.	ditto ..	Nil.	ditto.	
		Mudheypoorah	ditto ...	ditto ..	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Banka	0·70	ditto ...	0·70	ditto.	
	Purneah	Purneah	0·27	ditto ...	0·27	ditto.	
		Kishengunge	Nil.	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto.	
		Arrareah	ditto ...	ditto ..	ditto ...	ditto.	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	Deoghur	0·07	ditto ...	0·29	ditto.	
		Jamtara	Nil.	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto ...	Not received 5th to 11th January.
		Rajmehal	ditto ...	ditto ..	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Pakour	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Nya-Doomka	0·17	ditto ...	0·26	ditto.	
		Godda	0·51	ditto ...	0·62	ditto.	
	ORISSA.						
Orissa.	Cuttack	Cuttack Telegraph Office	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Cuttack Hospital	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Jajipore	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Kendrapara	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Jugutsingpore	0·76	ditto ...	0·76	ditto.	
		False Point	Nil.	ditto ...	N l.	ditto.	
	Pooree	Pooree	ditto ...	ditto ..	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Khoordah	0·02	0·06	0·08	ditto.	
	Balasore	Balasore	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Bhuddruck	ditto ...	ditto ..	ditto ...	ditto.	
	Cuttack Tributary Mehals ...	Sambalpore	Not rec.	Not rec.	.....	.....	
	CHOTA NAGPORE— SOUTH-WESTERN FRONTIER AGENCY.						
	Hazarcebaugh	Hazarcebaugh Jail	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	1st Feb.	
		Hazarcebaugh Dispensary	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Pachumba	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
	Lehardugguh	Ranchee	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Palamow	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
	Singbhoom	Chyebassa	0·19	ditto ...	0·19	ditto.	
	Manbhoom	Purulia	Nil.	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto.	
		Gobindpore	ditto ...	Not rec.	ditto ...	25th Jan.	
	ASSAM & ADJACENT HILLS.						
	Goalparah	Goalparah	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Dhoobree	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
	Kamroop	Gowhatty	ditto ...	Nil.	0·11	1st Feb.	
		Burpettah	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·50	ditto.	
	Durrung	Tezpore	ditto ...	Not rec.	0·40	25th Jan.	
		Mungledye	Ditto ...	ditto ...	0·33	ditto.	
	Nowgong	Nowgong	ditto ...	Nil.	0·05	1st Feb.	
	Seebsaugor	Seebsaugor	ditto ...	Not rec.	1·21	25th Jan.	
		Golaghat	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·07	ditto.	
		Jorehaut	ditto ...	ditto ...	1·06	ditto.	
		Nazeerah	Not rec.	ditto ...	.....	.....	
	Luckimpore	Debrooghur	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·83	18th Jan.	
		North Luckimpore...	Nil.	ditto ...	0·80	25th Jan.	
		Suddya	Not rec.	ditto ...	1·60	18th Jan.	
	Naga Hills ...	Samoogoodting	ditto ...	ditto ...	.....	.....	
	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	Shillong	Nil.	ditto ...	Nil.	25th Jan.	
		Jaowai	ditto ..	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Cherrapoonjee	ditto ...	ditto ..	0·21	ditto.	
	Garo Hills ...	Tura	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·43	ditto.	
		Benares	ditto ...	Nil.	Nil.	1st Feb.	
		Akyab	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·69	ditto.	

CALCUTTA,
The 8th February 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 2nd to 8th February 1873.

Stations.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	Barometer reduced to sea-level.	Thermometer. Dry.	Thermometer. Wet.	Humidity Sat. =100.	Wind. Direction.	Wind. Velocity.*	Rain.	Clouds.	Weather initials.
Calcutta.	2nd Feb.	10	30·109	30·128	73·2	63·0	54	N N E	...	...	CS	
		16	30·015	30·033	78·0	62·6	37	N N W	...	...	.....	b
	3rd	10	30·193	30·212	71·0	61·4	55	N E	...	...	.....	b
		16	30·057	30·075	77·5	62·2	37	N E	...	...	.....	b
	4th	10	30·112	30·131	66·4	60·0	66	N N E	...	...	S, CK	
		16	29·968	29·987	74·6	63·0	49	N W	...	...	CS	
	5th	10	30·060	30·079	68·0	60·0	60	N W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·891	29·909	79·0	63·0	36	N W	...	...	.....	b
	6th	10	30·065	30·084	72·5	62·0	52	W N W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·916	29·934	81·0	64·2	37	W N W	...	...	.....	b
	7th	10	30·057	30·076	72·0	66·5	73	W N W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·939	29·957	81·2	67·3	44	W N W	...	...	.....	b
	8th	10	30·072	30·090	75·5	69·3	70	W N W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·954	29·972	83·5	70·4	49	W by N	...	...	.....	b
Saugor Island.	2nd Feb.	10	30·100	30·106	75	65	55	N N E	9·1	...	.....	b
		16	30·009	30·015	78	61	32	N N E	15·8	...	C	b
	3rd	10	30·184	30·190	74	60	39	N E	6·7	...	.....	b, m
		16	30·052	30·058	78	61	33	N E	11·2	...	.....	b, m
	4th	10	30·114	30·120	69	61	60	N	6·8	...	N	o, m
		16	29·995	30·001	74	63	47	N N W	6·6	...	N	b, m
	5th	10	30·072	30·078	72	61	49	N N W	2·5	...	.....	b
		16	29·914	29·920	78	64	42	W S W	5·9	...	C	b
	6th	10	30·080	30·086	73	66	67	N W	4·5	...	.....	b
		16	29·935	29·941	78	66	49	W S W	8·6	...	.....	b
	7th	10	30·061	30·067	76	72	81	W	0·4	...	.....	b
		16	29·959	29·965	79	71	65	S W	6·1	...	C	b
	8th	10	30·043	30·049	78	74	81	W S W	4·2	...	C	b
		16	29·974	29·980	79	72	69	S W	6·1	...	.....	b
Chittagong.	2nd Feb.	10	29·978	30·072	75	66	59	N	4·9	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·912	30·005	82	67	43	W N W	5·6	...	.....	b, m
	3rd	10	30·046	30·141	72	60	45	N E	6·1	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·920	30·013	81	67	44	W	6·8	...	.....	b
	4th	10	30·004	30·098	73	65	62	N	4·1	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·850	29·944	76	68	64	W	6·0	...	KS	a
	5th	10	29·904	29·999	72	65	66	N N E	3·2	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·812	29·905	79	64	40	W S W	11·0	...	.....	b
	6th	10	29·957	30·054	70	62	61	N	4·4	...	.....	b
		16	29·835	29·929	77	64	45	W	7·1	...	.....	b
	7th	10	29·969	30·064	71	63	61	N N E	6·1	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·862	29·955	81	65	38	W	9·4	...	.....	b
	8th	10	29·979	30·074	71	64	66	N N E	5·7	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·862	29·955	82	64	32	W	8·1	...	.....	b
Madras.	1st Feb.	10	30·040	30·070	79	73	73	N E by N	10	...	.....	cloudy
		16	29·905	29·935	81	72	62	N N E	15	...	.....	cloudy
	2nd	10	30·015	30·045	78	73	77	N N E	10	...	.....	cloudy
		16	29·915	29·945	80	73	70	N by E	14	...	.....	cloudy
	3rd	10	30·035	30·065	77	74	86	E N E	13	0·89	.....	cloudy
		16	29·953	29·983	75	73	90	N E by E	16	0·37	.....	cloudy
	4th	10	30·081	30·111	73	71	90	E S E	4	3·58	.....	o
		16	29·971	30·001	75	73	90	E N E	6	1·27	.....	o
	5th	10	30·040	30·070	76	74	90	E N E	4	0·17	.....	o
		16	29·900	29·930	81	75	74	E N E	9	...	.....	cloudy
	6th	10	30·045	30·075	82	75	70	E N E	10	...	.....	c
		16	29·924	29·954	83	74	66	E by N	10	...	.....	c
	7th	10	30·047	30·077	79	72	69	E N E	3	...	.....	c
		16	29·942	29·972	81	71	69	E by N	7	...	.....	c
	8th	10										
		16										
Cuttack.	1st Feb.	10	29·994	30·077	79	65	43	S E	1·0	...	.....	b
		16	29·853	29·935	87	68	33	E N E	2·6	...	.....	b
	2nd	10	30·014	30·097	79	66	47	N W	1·3	...	.....	b
		16	29·923	30·005	84	69	43	N	4·5	...	K	b
	3rd	10	30·104	30·187	77	60	31	N N E	1·7	...	.....	b
		16	29·976	30·059	82	61	23	N	6·6	...	.....	b
	4th	10	30·072	30·156	71	61	53	N N W	1·0	...	KS, C	
		16	29·921	30·004	78	62	35	N	2·0	...	CK, C	
	5th	10	29·992	30·076	74	61	43	N N E	0·6	...	.....	b
		16	29·826	29·908	85	65	29	N N E	2·2	...	.....	b
	6th	10	30·009	30·092	76	66	56	W N W	0·9	...	.....	b
		16	29·836	29·918	86	65	27	W N W	2·8	...	.....	v
	7th	10	29·974	30·057	78	68	57	W	0·8	...	.....	b
		16	29·851	29·933	87	67	30	N N E	3·5	...	.....	b
	8th	10										
		16										
Akyab.	2nd Feb.	10	30·015	30·037	79	69	58	N E	0·7	...	.....	b
		16	29·949	29·971	81	72	62	W S W	1·1	...	.....	b
	3rd	10	30·065	30·087	80	69	54	N E	1·0	...	.....	b
		16	29·976	29·998	79	70	61	W N W	2·3			b
	4th	10	30·053	30·075	76	67	60	E N E	1·5	...	.....	b
		16	29·929	29·951	79	70	64	S W	1·0	...	.....	b
	5th	10	29·985	30·007	77	68	69	N E	0·3	...	.....	b
		16	29·864	29·886	78	66	49	W N W	4·5	...	.....	b
	6th	10	30·009	30·025	76	67	60	N E	0·4	...	.....	b
		16	29·874	29·896	78	67	53	W	4·6	...	.....	b
	7th	10	30·018	30·040	74	67	67	E N E	0·5	...	.....	b
		16	29·926	29·948	78	67	53	W	2·0	...	.....	b
	8th	10	30·025	30·047	76	67	60	N N E	0·3	...	.....	b
		16	29·922	29·944	81	71	59	S W	2·5	...	.....	b

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA,
The 8th February 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 1st to 7th February 1873.

Month.	Date.	Mean reduced barometer.	Thermometer.			Mean dry bulb.	Mean wet bulb.	Computed mean dew-point.	Mean degree of humidity.	Wind.			Rain.	Moon's phases.	General Remarks.
			Highest reading.	Lowest reading.	Max. solar radiation.					Prevailing direction.	Max. pressure.	Daily velocity.			
		Inches.	○	○	○	○	○	○			lb	Miles.	In.		
Feb. ...	1st	29·994	82·4	61·5	134·0	71·4	63·9	57·9	0·64	N E & N W	...	76·0	...	...	Clear.
	2nd	30·036	78·7	64·5	131·2	70·4	62·4	56·0	·62	N W & N E	...	98·2	...	...	Chiefly clear. Slightly foggy from 8 to 10 P.M.
	3rd	·106	78·5	60·0	130·8	68·7	60·3	53·6	·61	N E	...	126·5	...	...	Clear and cirri.
	4th	·042	74·6	59·5	125·0	66·2	59·8	54·7	·68	N E & W by N	...	124·5	...	☽	Cirro cumuli; stratoni and clear.
	5th	29·972	79·4	57·9	135·0	67·7	60·2	54·2	·64	W N W & N W	...	69·2	...	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from 7 to 9 P.M.
	6th	·973	80·8	59·0	133·3	69·4	61·6	55·4	·63	N W	...	44·4	...	...	Clear. Slightly foggy at 7 and 8 A.M., 8 and 9 P.M.
	7th	·982	82·0	60·4	138·0	70·7	64·3	59·2	·68	W & W N W	...	34·5	...	...	Clear. Slightly foggy 5 and 7 A.M.

The mean barometer as likewise the dry and wet bulb thermometer means are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants.—The figures in column 10 represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity. The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1½ feet, and that of the anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground. The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

		⊖
The extreme variation of temperature during the past seven days	...	24·5
The max. temperature during the past seven days	...	82·4
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	82·7
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	0·64
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	0·75
		Inches.
The total fall of rain from 1st to 7th — by lower rain gauge	...	Nil.
The total fall of rain from 1st to 7th — by anemometer gauge	...	Nil.
Ditto ditto ditto average of nineteen previous years	...	0·18
Ditto ditto between the 1st January and the 7th February	...	Nil.
Ditto ditto ditto ditto, average of nineteen previous years	...	0·60

GOPEENAUTH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

The 10th February 1873.

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,—IRRIGATION BRANCH.

RUBEE SEASON 1872, COMMENCING ON THE 1ST DECEMBER 1872.

Irrigation Operations of Lower Bengal during the month of December 1872.

Circle.	District.	Canal.	Water supplied during 1872.		Dalwa Rice irrigation.			Tobacco, Cotton, Huldee, Ginger, Wheat, and Garden produce.			Oil seeds and Pulses.			Sugar-cane and other crops.			Grand total of area leased up to end of the month (total of columns 8, 11, 14, and 17).	Grand total of corresponding period of last year.	Rainfall.			REMARKS.
			Estimated full discharge in cubic feet per second.	Average discharge in cubic feet per second throughout the month.	Area leased up to the 1st of the month.	Area leased during the month.	Total area leased up to the during the month.	Area leased up to the 1st of the month.	Area leased during the month.	Total area leased up to the end of the month.	Area leased up to the 1st of the month.	Area leased during the month.	Total area leased up to the end of the month.	Area leased up to the 1st of the month.	Area leased during the month.	Total area leased up to the end of the month.			Inches during month.	Inches up to date.	Average of ten previous years for the same period.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
Orissa ...	Cuttack ...	High Level, Range I. ...	675	233	...	...	...	1	.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	(a)1	...	0·02	76·06	56·86	(a) Shown in columns 11 and 12 of the November Statement.
	Ditto ...	Kendrapurah ...	...	...	...	...	...	138	17	155	1	1	2	...	...	...	157	...	0·02	76·06	56·86	Canal closed for repairs the greater part of the month.
	Ditto ...	Taldunda ...	1,300	Nil	...	...	...	1	.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	0·02	76·06	56·86	Ditto ditto.
	Ditto ...	Machgong ...	650	Nil	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	0·02	76·06	56·86	Ditto ditto.
South-Western.	Midnapore ...	Midnapore ...	875	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	0·01	58·27	Not available.	
	Howrah ...	Panchkoorah ...	240	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	36·95	Ditto.	
						Total ...		140	17	157	1	1	2	...	...	...	159	...				

The 5th February 1873.

F. T. HAIG, *Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.,*
Offg. Joint-Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the P. W. Dept., Irrigation Branch.

IRRIGATION BRANCH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Brahminee Division High Level Canal for the month of December 1872.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—37 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.								STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.								ABSTRACT.							
Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate		Tonnage exclusive of empty Boats.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	No. of boats or rafts.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate		Tonnage exclusive of empty Boats.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage exclusive of empty boats.	Ton mileage	Tollage.
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Maunds.	Tons.					Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Maunds.	Tons.									
		Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.			Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.			Mds.	Rs.			Rs. A. P.
1	Provision ...	5	20	24	1	29	0 4 6	2	Rurkutcha ...	1,000	80	2,178	78	77	10 8 0	15	Private Merchandize	63	208	5	87	6 4 0
1	Tent ...	10	100	37	1	45	0 7 0	1	Iron Rails ...	150	300	483	17	414	7 2 0							
1	Paddy ...	28	28	45	2	1	0 3 2	14	Empty ...	...	...	...	...	...	34 8 6	17	Govt. Stores, &c. ...	1,150	380	95	491	52 2 6
1	Yam ...	20	60	28	1	12	0 1 6	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....							
8	Empty ...	...	...	...	...	...	2 8 6	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	.....
3	Passenger ...	...	...	...	...	...	2 11 4	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	.....
15		63	208	134	5	87	6 4 0	17		1,150	380	2,661	95	491	52 2 6	32		1,213	588	100	578	58 6 6

The canal has been closed for repairs from the 15th December 1872.

IRRIGATION BRANCH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Hidgellee Tidal Canal for the month of December 1872.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—26 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate Weight of cargo.	Approximate Value of cargo.	Tonnage Exclusive of empty Boats. Maunds.	Tons.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.
		Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.
9	Pottery No.	11,000	137	1,135	...	...	6 11 0
3	Bamboos „	2,100	294	...	...	...	5 4 0
1	Cocoanuts „	3,000	68	150	...	...	0 12 0
2	Plantains „	1,580	40	150	...	...	0 12 0
10	Timbers „	95	1,748	760	...	...	30 15 3
14	Passengers „	85	...	1,115	...	...	6 8 0
113	Empty boats ...	...	...	...	...	...	27 5 3
13	Tobacco Mds.	621	2,163	1,383	...	...	8 7 9
4	Salt „	394	1,595	775	...	...	4 14 6
5	Miscellaneous „	70	300	285	...	...	1 14 9
1	Spices „	50	800	125	...	...	0 10 0
10	Grains „	437	2,222	940	...	...	4 11 0
1	Oil-cake „	20	20	50	...	...	0 4 0
3	Betel „	95	110	170	...	...	1 4 9
4	Firewood „	595	103	1,270	...	...	6 5 9
2	Gurrun Piles „	800	96	675	...	...	3 6 0
1	Sugar „	40	400	275	...	...	1 6 0
3	Cotton „	180	3,250	865	...	...	4 5 3
89	Paddy „	2,485	2,092	4,340	...	...	25 8 3
8	Ghooting „	565	69	1,035	...	...	5 2 9
8	Sand „	1,450	74	3,300	...	...	11 8 0
1	Jute „	50	175	200	...	...	1 0 0
1	Thread „	6	300	25	...	...	0 6 6
21	Rice „	538	855	1,165	...	...	10 1 0
15	Vegetables „	78	154	380	...	...	1 14 6
1	Shell Lime „	12	4	30	...	...	0 2 6
2	Planks „	86	35	175	...	...	0 14 6
8	Hantal wood „	150	110	450	...	...	2 3 0
2	Water ...	...	...	900	...	...	4 8 0
1	Cockle or shell-fish	200	50	475	...	...	2 6 0
300		8,922	18,326	22,700	811	21,078	182 2 3

ABSTRACT.

Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty boats.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Remarks.
		Mds.	Rs.			Rs. A. P.	
300	Local ...	8,922	18,326	811	21,078	182 2 3	Canal much silted and unnavigable except at H. W. Springs.
300		8,922	18,326	811	21,078	182 2 3	

Tonnage shown above is of the boats not of the cargo.

IRRIGATION BRANCH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCLE.

COSSYE DIVISION.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Midnapore Section of the High Level Canal for the month of December 1872.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—24 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.								STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.								ABSTRACT.							
Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate weight of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	TOTAL EXCLUSIVE OF TONNAGE OF EMPTY BOATS.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats or rafts.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate weight of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	TOTAL EXCLUSIVE OF TONNAGE OF EMPTY BOATS.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Total exclusive of tonnage of empty boats.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.	REMARKS.
				Mds.	Tons.							Maunds.	Tons.										
		Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.			Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.			Mds.	Rs.			Rs. A. P.	
37	Coal ...	16,400	5,453	28,200	...	...	165 10 0	2	Furnitures ...	20	140	125	...	...	0 11 0	1,634	Local ...	49,276	4,51,340	4,526	39,004	1,166 6 6	Range III Canal opened from 22nd Dec. 1872.
14	Cotton ...	1,195	34,800	3,000	...	...	13 11 6	1	Empty boat	...	...	...	...	...	0 9 0	3	Irrigation works ...	20	140	4	31	1 4 0	
3	Firewood ...	500	248	1,225	...	...	4 9 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
45	Grain ...	3,580	5,942	9,025	...	...	39 3 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
13	Hides and horns	1,007	13,100	2,300	...	...	18 7 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
8	Jaggery and sugar	480	1,470	1,250	...	...	6 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
7	Metal ...	725	27,900	1,825	...	...	9 15 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
132	Miscellaneous ...	4,196	15,495	18,175	...	...	85 3 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
25	Oil and oilseeds ...	2,173	12,675	5,575	...	...	23 12 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
54	Paddy and rice ...	5,365	6,380	11,250	...	...	46 12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
62	Piece goods ...	1,181	1,25,893	9,200	...	...	41 10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
49	Thread ...	2,391	93,579	8,150	...	...	33 11 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
26	Garden produce ...	2,385	6,683	5,050	...	...	24 9 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
22	Pottery ...	628	708	4,650	...	...	20 7 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
23	Salt ...	3,630	15,170	7,900	...	...	36 1 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
14	Silk and indigo ...	310	75,320	2,750	...	...	12 8 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
7	Jute ...	620	1,940	1,500	...	...	5 10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
2	Straw ...	200	309	425	...	...	1 9 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
16	Tobacco ...	1,275	7,751	3,450	...	...	19 7 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
6	Sand ...	735	69	1,825	...	...	6 13 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
9	Rafts of timber ...	...	485	Logs 46	...	...	5 12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
147	Empty boats ...	...	...	...	...	...	67 10 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
829	Passengers ...	...	...	no.7,356	...	...	88 15 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Ditto ...	...	...	57,500	...	...	367 4 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Miscellaneous Revenue.	...	...	...	...	...	20 7 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
14	Police boats ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
1,634		49,276	4,51,340	1,26,725	4,526	39,004	1,166 6 6	3		20	140	125	4	31	1 4 0	1,637		49,296	4,51,480	4,530	39,035	1,167 10 6	

Tolls for same month in previous year were Rs. 924-9-3.

IRRIGATION BRANCH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Kendraparah Canal for the month of December 1872.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—42 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.								STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.								ABSTRACT.							REMARKS.
Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate.		Tonnage exclusive of empty Boats.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats or rafts.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate.		Tonnage exclusive of empty Boats.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage exclusive of empty Boats.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.	
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Maunds.	Tons.					Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Maunds.	Tons										
		Mds.					Rs. A. P								Rs. A. P.				Rs. A. P.			Rs. A. P.	
1	Black Gram	656	...	328	...	...	1 10 0	1	Dry fish ...	...	540	54	...	...	0 12 0	3	Local traffic -	...	956 0 0	18	180	2 10 0	The canal was closed for repairs from 4th December 1872.
1	Oil-cake ...	300	...	165	...	...	0 12 0	3	Empty ...	...	..	...	...	...	5 4 0	4	Through traffic.	...	540 0 0	2	84	6 0 0	
1	Empty ...	...	...	...	...	...	0 4 0	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	.....	
3	.....	956	...	493	18	180	2 10 0	4	... ..	...	540	54	2	84	6 0 0	7	.....	...	1,496 0 0	20	264	8 10 0	

F. T. HAIG, *Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.,*
Offg. Joint-Secretary to the Government of Bengal
in the P. W. Dept., Irrigation Branch.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 25th January 1873, on 28 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.			Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.			Total receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	7,700	1,176 0 0	117 12 0	10,814 0	517 0 0	51 14 0	169 6 0
Or per mile of railway	275	42 0 0	4 4 0	386 0	18 0 0	1 16 0	6 0 0
For previous 3 weeks of half-year...	26,155	3,603 0 0	360 6 0	39,701 0	1,175 0 0	117 10 0	477 16 0
Total for 4 weeks ...	33,855	4,779 0 0	477 18 0	50,515 0	1,692 0 0	169 4 0	647 2 0
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	8,255	1,129 8 9	112 19 1	25,873 20	372 15 0	37 5 11	150 5 0
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	295	40 5 5	4 0 8	852 18	13 5 1	1 6 8	5 7 4
Total to corresponding date of previous year	34,359	4,647 13 0	464 15 8	60,050 0	1,435 9 0	143 11 2	608 6 10

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 25th January 1873, on 156½ miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	29,641½	28,393 11 0	2,602 15 1	116,917 27	23,653 9 9	2,168 4 11	4,771 0 0
Or per mile of railway	189	181 6 11	16 12 8	747 0	151 2 3	13 17 1	30 9 9
For previous 2 weeks of half-year	75,534½	60,472 4 6	5,543 5 10	210,604 35	56,886 12 3	5,214 12 4	10,757 18 2
Total for 4 weeks	105,175	88,865 15 6	8,146 0 11	327,522 22	80,540 6 0	7,382 17 3	15,528 18 2
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	38,138½	21,334 9 3	1,955 13 5	138,487 33	26,463 7 8	2,425 16 4	4,381 9 9
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	244	136 5 2	12 9 11	885 0	169 1 6	15 10 0	27 19 11
Total to corresponding date of previous year	127,581	77,462 10 2	7,100 14 10	382,254 28	80,579 14 0	7,386 9 9	14,487 4 7

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 1st February 1873, on 28 miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	8,808	1,292 0 0	129 4 0	18,101 0	632 0 0	63 4 0	192 8 0
Or per mile of railway	315	46 0 0	4 12 0	646 0	23 0 0	2 6 0	6 18 0
For previous 2 weeks of half-year	33,855	4,779 0 0	477 18 0	50,515 0	1,692 0 0	169 4 0	647 2 0
Total for 5 weeks	42,663	6,071 0 0	607 2 0	68,616 0	2,324 0 0	232 8 0	839 10 0
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	8,232	1,186 3 6	118 12 5	15,947 20	466 2 0	46 12 3	165 4 8
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	294	42 5 10	4 4 9	569 0	16 10 0	1 13 3	5 18 0
Total to corresponding date of previous year	42,591	5,834 0 6	583 8 1	75,997 20	1,901 11 0	190 3 5	773 11 6

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[REGISTERED No. 50.]

No. 8 of 1873.

SUPPLEMENT TO
The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1873.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE *may receive the* SUPPLEMENT *separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.*

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RESOLUTIONS ON THE REGISTRATION, MEDICAL, AND JAIL BUDGETS.

PROVINCIAL SERVICE.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Calcutta, the 27th December 1872.

READ—

Letter No. 709C, dated 21st December, from the Accountant-General, submitting the Registration budget for the year 1873-74.

RESOLUTION.—The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the budget estimate, as submitted by the Accountant-General, with the following alterations, namely :—

(1) *Office rent in Calcutta.*—The grant may be reduced from Rs. 7,200 to Rs. 6,000, consequent on the arrangement recently made for housing the Inspector-General more cheaply.

(2) The extension of the new system of special rural sub-registrars makes it unnecessary to provide so large a grant for the *salaries of special sub-registrars.* The Accountant-General proposes a grant of Rs. 45,300, or more than the actual expenditure of 1871-72. A grant of Rs. 36,000 will suffice for the coming year.

(3) In the same way a full grant, in excess of the actuals of the year 1871-72, will not be required for *mofussil registration establishments*. The grant for the coming year may be taken at Rs. 95,000 in place of Rs. 1,05,612. The large increase of Rs. 40,000 in the grant for commission may be accepted, as the sub-registrars under the new system are to be entirely paid from this source. The need for so large a grant shows that the reductions above ordered in items (2) and (3) are quite reasonable.

(4) The grant of Rs. 30,000 for *registration buildings* must, the Lieutenant-Governor directs, appear both in the Public Works Department budget and in the Registration budget. But such items must be separately shown, and must be reckoned only once in the provincial total. It is absolutely necessary that Government and the public should know what is spent on departments like registration; and the cost of registration buildings is very clearly a part of the cost of the Registration Department.

2. Under these orders the Registration budget will stand thus :—

Receipts.

	Accountant-General's figures.	Figures accepted by Government.
	Rs.	Rs.
	4,00,000	4,00,000
Expenditure.		
Presidency charges	53,504	52,300
Mofussil charges	3,00,412	2,80,700
Registration buildings... ...	...	30,000
Total ...	3,53,916	3,63,000

3. There will thus be an apparent surplus of Rs. 37,000 on the Registration budget of 1873-74. But it must be remembered that the Registration Department was made over to the provincial services with a deficit of Rs. 60,000, so that in reality there is still a deficit of Rs. 23,100. Still the Lieutenant-Governor has on previous occasions declared his unwillingness to make the Registration Department do more than pay for itself, and his anxiety to cheapen and popularize registration as far as possible. He observes that the *actual* expenditure of 1871-72 was only Rs. 2,86,732, exclusive of the cost of registration buildings, and he believes that the estimates now sanctioned are full and liberal. He considers that the provincial Government can now afford to reduce the registration fees on leases and other agreements between landlords and tenants. The Inspector-General will be requested to submit proposals for modifying the fee rates with this view; the Lieutenant-Governor specially desires to make the registration of permanent leases of land very cheap for the smaller classes of leases. The Inspector-General may be allowed, when preparing his plan for giving effect to these orders, to provide for reducing the fee income from registrations of this class by Rs. 15,000 or Rs. 20,000.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Calcutta, the 14th February 1873.

READ—

The Medical Department Budget Estimate for the year 1873-74, and the Accountant-General's letter No. 839C, dated 31st January, giving cover thereto.

1. RESOLUTION.—The Lieutenant-Governor observes that this budget estimates for an expenditure greatly above the grant for the current year, and

still more in excess of the actuals of the preceding year (1871-72). The figures under the several sub-heads of the budget are as follows:—

	Actuals of 1871-72.	Sanctioned budget of 1872-73.	Accountant-General's budget of 1873-74.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Medical establishments	67,364	54,800	62,087
Vaccine ,, ...	78,764	86,600	97,864
Government hospitals and dispensaries ...	3,66,053	4,17,500	4,50,800
Lock-hospitals	52,500	55,000	54,045
Medical College	1,65,534	1,82,500	1,71,683
Lunatic asylums	1,06,914	1,20,000	1,60,723
Chemical Examiner	1,300	4,800	1,863
Sanitary Commissioner	16,952	24,200	24,264
Medical relief, reserve, and miscellaneous ...	44,978	54,600	1,49,856
Total ...	9,00,359	1,00,0000	11,73,195

2. The increases are explained as follows:—

Medical establishments.—There is a small increase on account of clerks sanctioned for the Medical Department offices at the presidency; a small increase on account of the medical charge of certain sub-divisions; a considerable increase on account of the expected cost of medical stores and medicines for sale in the interior; and a considerable reduction on the estimate for "service postage stamps." The increase of Rs. 600 in the allowances for attending educational institutions is not explained. The Lieutenant-Governor has recently directed that the medical charge of colleges shall be amalgamated with the duty of lecturing on botany and chemistry. The grant of Rs. 5,400 being a purely educational charge, should be struck out of the "Medical" budget and transferred to the Educational budget.

3. *Vaccine establishments.*—The increase in the cost of the vaccination department is due entirely to the charges on account of the recently-established eastern circle of vaccination, which has broken ground in the Dacca Division. The Lieutenant-Governor does not grudge the extra money, and he would be glad if financial limits permitted him to spend more on this most useful department of medical relief.

4. *Government hospitals and dispensaries.*—There is an increase of Rs. 5,000, which must be admitted, on account of newly-opened dispensaries and on account of annual increases to the salaries of native doctors. The number of assistant surgeons and native doctors provided for as "supernumerary" is still very large; 20 supernumeraries of the former and 50 of the latter grade are estimated for. The Lieutenant-Governor apprehends that there may be employment for all these supernumeraries in the fever-stricken tracts, so he accepts the charge on their account. The addition of a wing to the General Hospital has made room for more patients, so an extra credit of Rs. 6,800 has been rightly taken for the diet and clothing of the General Hospital patients.

A grant of Rs. 58,000 is proposed for "medicines and medical instruments," in place of Rs. 40,000 during current year and Rs. 23,225 "actuals" of 1871-72. It is explained by the Accountant-General that a grant of Rs. 5,500 was separately given in the current year's budget to meet the cost of medicines and instruments for the "General Hospital," and that this separate grant now forms part of the grant of Rs. 58,000, which the Accountant-General proposes should be made. The Lieutenant-Governor is not satisfied that the whole of this large increase is required, and he would therefore reduce this grant to Rs. 43,000, which will still be twice the actual expenditure of the year 1871-72. The increased grant of Rs. 1,000 for laying water on to the Medical College Hospital premises is passed.

5. The Accountant-General's proposed grants for "lock-hospitals" and "the Medical College" are accepted as they stand.

6. The increase of Rs. 7,900 in the cost of lunatic asylum establishments has been separately sanctioned, and the increased grant is admitted. The large increases under "lunatic asylum contingencies," namely, Rs. 1,000 on account of diet and clothing, Rs. 13,500 on account of contingent charges,

Rs. 1,700 under "petty repairs," Rs. 21,000 under cost of "raw material for manufactures," are partially explained. But the Lieutenant-Governor is not satisfied that the whole of the increase under "contingencies" is clearly necessary; and he does not see why the lunatic asylum should want Rs. 23,000 of raw material when they expect to turn out only Rs. 8,000, worth of work. The value of the work done ought at least to equal the value of the new material, even if the lunatic's work has no commercial value whatever. The Lieutenant-Governor would put Rs. 20,000 on each side of the budget for "lunatic asylum manufactures," and he would reduce the contingencies grant from Rs. 28,254 to Rs. 20,000, which will still be 33 per cent. above the current year's grant.

7. *Chemical Examiner's department.*—The Lieutenant-Governor has already agreed to the entry in the budget of another assistant to the Chemical Examiner on Rs. 150 a month. The grant under this head must therefore stand at Rs. 3,600.

8. *Sanitary Commissioner.*—An addition of Rs. 1,200 must be added to this grant to meet the cost of the increase to the Sanitary Commissioner's establishment, which Government is now considering, and will barely be able to avoid sanctioning. A further credit of Rs. 10,000 must be granted to meet the cost of clerks to aid Civil Surgeons of large districts in checking and compiling vital and other statistics.

9. *Medical relief, and miscellaneous.*—The great increase of Rs. 1,09,862 under this head is on account of the measures taken for the relief of epidemic fever in the Burdwan and Hooghly districts, and the details of the grant are given in a special appendix to the Accountant-General's letter. The large outlay on this object during the current year has been partly met by a grant of one lakh which the Supreme Government was pleased to make. But it was then stipulated that this grant was to be a special and occasional grant, and was not to be renewed in future years. When the "medical" service was made over to the provincial Government in December 1870, the "medical" assignment contained no provision for outlays of this kind. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad, however, that the balances at his disposal enable him to spend this sum of Rs. 1,10,000 on the Burdwan relief; he wishes he could spend more money usefully on the relief of the fever-stricken tracts. When the provincial balances are consumed, the Bengal Government will be obliged, if the epidemic should then unhappily continue, to ask the aid of the Supreme Government.

10. The extra grant of Rs. 4,026 on account of medicines supplied to the Native Hospital in Calcutta may stand. But the Lieutenant-Governor directs that this extra grant, which brings the local Government contribution to the Calcutta Native Hospital and its branch dispensaries to Rs. 30,134, may be borne in mind when any question of spending more public money on Calcutta hospitals comes up.

11. *Receipts.*—The receipts may stand at the figures taken by the Accountant-General, with the exception of the "sale proceeds of lunatic asylum manufactures," which must be taken at Rs. 20,000, the amount of the raw material grant.

12. The sanctioned budget will then stand thus:—

Charges.	Accountant-General's estimate.	Sanctioned budget grant.
	Rs.	Rs.
Medical establishments	62,087	56,700
Vaccine ,, ...	97,864	97,800
Government hospitals and dispensaries ...	4,50,800	4,35,000
Lock-hospitals	54,040	54,000
Medical College	1,71,680	1,71,700
Lunatic asylums	1,60,733	1,51,500
Chemical Examiner	1,863	3,600
Sanitary Commissioner	24,264	35,600
Medical relief, and miscellaneous ...	1,49,856	1,49,800
Total ...	11,73,195	11,55,700
Receipts	78,700	90,700

13. In the Public Works Department budget are included the following grants on account of the Medical Department, namely :—

	Rs.
Original works	52,000
Repairs	15,000
Establishments at 25 per cent.	16,700
Total ...	83,700

Thus, the total expenditure on the Medical Department for the coming year is estimated at Rs. 12,39,400.

Secretary to Government, Judicial Department.
Accountant-General.
Inspector-General of Hospitals.
Sanitary Commissioner.
Superintendent-General of Vaccination.

ORDERED, that copy of the foregoing resolution, with enclosures, be forwarded to the officers marginally noted; and that this resolution be published in the Supplement to the *Calcutta Gazette*.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Calcutta, the 14th February 1873.

READ—

Accountant-General's letter No. 902C, dated 11th February 1873, forwarding the Jail budget for the year 1873-74.

Inspector-General of Jails' letter No. 105, dated 7th January 1873, explaining the items of increase and decrease on the current year's budget.

1. RESOLUTION.—The Lieutenant-Governor observes that the present budget estimate compares with the actuals and the estimate of the two preceding years thus :—

CHARGES.	Actuals of 1871-72.	Grants for 1872-73.	Budget for 1873-74.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Inspection, &c.	38,074	49,000	41,816
Central jails	2,27,962	3,25,000	3,84,610
District jails' establishments ...	1,88,590	2,03,600	1,73,086
,, supplies ...	4,84,174	5,46,400	4,40,100
Manufactures	5,45,300	6,78,000	7,09,087
Totals ...	14,84,100	18,02,000	17,48,699
Receipts	6,61,753	10,12,000	10,13,100
Net cost of jails	8,22,347	7,90,000	7,35,599

2. Regarding the items of increase and decrease, the Lieutenant-Governor accepts the explanations given by the Accountant-General and the Inspector-General of Jails. The increase to the Inspector-General's establishment, if eventually sanctioned, can be debited against general savings in the Jail Department; meanwhile the increase need not be separately provided for. The considerable increase in the cost of central jails is due to the progress made towards the completion of the central jail system, and is accepted by the Lieutenant-Governor. The decrease in the district jail establishments satisfactorily shows that the Jail Department is careful to reduce the charges for district jails when the long-term prisoners from these jails are sent to central prisons. The reduction in the grant for district jail rations, &c., is accepted as being warranted by the actuals of past years. The grant of Rs. 20,000 for tread-mills in district jails and for cranks in sub-divisional lock-ups is passed by the Lieutenant-Governor, who hopes that the Inspector-General may succeed during the coming year in introducing more generally these deterrent, though perhaps unlucrative, forms of jail labor for short-term prisoners.

3. The proposed grant of Rs. 7,09,000 for "manufactures" is passed; the Lieutenant-Governor observes that the charge for "jail writers" has disappeared from the "manufactures" part of the budget, the necessary provision having been made under district and central jails' establishments. The

estimate of receipts on account of jail manufactures and prison labor may stand at the Accountant-General's figures, namely :—

	Rs.
Sale proceeds of jail manufactures	8,42,600
Payment for convicts' labour on irrigation works	20,000
Estimated value of printing done at the Alipore Jail Press ...	1,50,400
Total ...	10,13,000

The Lieutenant-Governor has ascertained that Rs. 2,60,000 of the manufacturing charges, and Rs. 3,70,000 of the manufacturing receipts, are estimated as pertaining to the Alipore Jail jute-mill; the whole of jail profits outside Alipore therefore are estimated at only Rs. 23,600 net.

4. The "jails" grant for the year 1873-74 will stand thus :—

CHARGES.

	Rs.
Inspection, &c.	41,800
Central jails, &c.	3,84,600
District jails' establishments	1,73,000
Ditto supplies	4,40,100
Manufactures	7,09,000
Total ...	17,48,500
Manufactures, &c.	10,13,000
Net cost of jails	7,35,500

5. The following grants have also been made on account of jail buildings during the year 1873-74 :—

	Rs.
New works	6,87,600
Repairs	67,700
Establishment at 25 per cent.	1,88,800
Total ...	9,44,100

This large outlay is caused by the efforts now being made to complete the new central jails, and to re-construct or improve district jails and lock-ups in different parts of Bengal. The total gross outlay on jails is thus estimated at about 27 lakhs, and the net outlay at 17 lakhs, for the coming year. The Lieutenant-Governor has every reason to hope that the large grants for jail buildings will be well spent, the subject having been thoroughly considered by the Inspector-General and Chief Engineer in constant communication with Government. He fears that there must be a large expenditure under this head for several years before the Bengal jails can be brought into a satisfactory state.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN THE SONTHAL PERGUNNAHS.

No. 908, dated Calcutta, the 14th February 1873.

From—A. MACKENZIE, ESQ., Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, Judicial Dept.,
To—The Officiating Commissioner of Bhaugulpore.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your predecessor's endorsement No. 53, dated 17th ultimo, forwarding a letter from the Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Pergunnahs, asking that certain Acts might be extended to that district and certain other Acts withdrawn therefrom.

2. In reply I am to say that the Deputy Commissioner, in making proposals for the introduction into the Sonthal Pergunnahs of Acts not now in force there, ought to have given his reasons in full. As at present advised, the Lieutenant-Governor cannot see the necessity for the Civil Court Ameens'

Act and the Peons' Act. The Court of Wards' Act the Commissioner says he does not see the need of extending.

3. As regards the three large modern Acts which it is proposed to withdraw (the Law of Evidence, the Contract Act, and the Criminal Procedure Code), I am to say that these were deliberately introduced, and will not be withdrawn unless it is shown that real and serious evils result in practice from their operation which cannot be got over by good and discreet officers. It will not suffice to show that indiscreet officers thirsting for technicalities may abuse the Acts. In that case the officers will be changed, not the laws.

4. The Evidence and Contract Acts are merely codes laying down general principles, and which may be referred to for those principles. The special Sonthal Regulation regarding usury most clearly overrules the general contract law on that subject, and it was very unnecessary for the Deputy Commissioner to suggest the contrary. As regards fraudulent contracts, or those obtained by cheating or undue influence such as he describes, the Lieutenant-Governor fails to understand why the contract law should make it necessary for officers to believe false evidence, or should render it more difficult for them to sift truth from falsehood.

5. With respect to the Criminal Procedure Code, the Lieutenant-Governor does not think it desirable to withdraw it in order to prevent prisoners from being defended by Counsel. Not many lawyers will find a living by defending criminal cases in the Sonthal Pergunnahs. The right to plead is confined to Barristers, Attorneys, and regularly enrolled Pleaders (of which last class there are probably none in the district). The employment of any other person is entirely in the discretion of the Court (section 186, Criminal Procedure Code). This disposes of your letter No. 183, dated 10th February, since received. Again, where there are no police there can be no formal police enquiry, and the provisions of the Code in that respect become mere surplusage.

6. The Lieutenant-Governor must, on this subject of criminal procedure, express a strong opinion that the Code admits of a simple summary, and effectual procedure, if it is properly worked; and if it is otherwise worked, the fault is that of the officers who use it badly. With a few just exceptions almost any case may be enquired into without stamp or petition when the officer having jurisdiction thinks fit. The parties may be summoned in a very summary way. The record may in most cases be of a very concise character. And if officers will only try to make justice easy where interference is really necessary and not try to make it difficult, and will look to real justice instead of searching for a technicality which they mistake for law, the Lieutenant-Governor has no doubt the Code will work very well.

7. In conclusion, His Honor must remark that it seemed to him, when visiting the Sonthal Pergunnahs, that the officers acting under laws and rules which were designed for a very simple procedure had got into a technical groove much to be deprecated, and adopted the forms and gave themselves the airs of Civil Courts to an extreme degree. There may have been some excuse for this under a policy which aimed at assimilating the administration to that of the regular provinces, but there is none now; and the Lieutenant-Governor will hold the Deputy Commissioner responsible that he and his officers do not suffer the people to be harassed and injustice done by introducing technicalities which the law does not require.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 15th February 1873.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.						
	Western Districts.	1873.				
Burdwan Divn. 1	Burdwan ...	Feb. 18th*	Nil.	Weather fair ...	Sugarcane good, winter cereals being gathered. Grain market same as before.	Fever decreasing.
Burdwan Divn. 2	Bancoorah ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Cool and fair ...	The rubee crops are doing well. Sugarcane is being cut; a good outturn is expected.	
Burdwan Divn. 3	Beerbhoom ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Dry and cool ...	Prospects of winter crops fair; would be bettered by a little rain.	
Burdwan Divn. 4	Midnapore ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Cool again ...	No change; prospects average.	
Burdwan Divn. 5	Hooghly ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Clear throughout; cool in the mornings; north and north-east wind.	Winter crops good; mostly cut.	
Burdwan Divn.	Howrah ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Clear. No rain ...	There is now no paddy in the fields. The sugarcane crop, which is being cut, is a good one.	
	Central Districts.					
Presidency Divn. 6	24-Pergunnahs ...	„ 18th	Nil.	Fine. Getting warmer every day.	Paddy harvested. Winter crops good, and nearly gathered.	Health generally good; but cholera still continues.
Presidency Divn. 7	Nuddea ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Seasonable ...	Prospects generally favorable. Outturn of shursha in Chooadanga subdivision reported at three-fourths crop.	
Presidency Divn. 8	Jessore ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Clear ...	State and prospects of crops good, but rain is wanted.	
Rajshahye Division. 9	Moorshedabad ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Clear and seasonable weather.	Prospects of winter crops promising, but the crops are suffering somewhat in consequence of the want of rain.	Small-pox is spreading. Cholera is present in the district, but not in an aggravated form.
Rajshahye Division. 10	Dinagepore ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Fine ...	Good, but rain wanted.	
Rajshahye Division. 11	Maldah ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	Return not received.
Rajshahye Division. 12	Rajshahye ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Fine and seasonable ...	Indigo is flourishing, and the prospects of the rubee crops continue satisfactory. Mulberry, arohur, and gunjah, are now being cut.	
Rajshahye Division. 13	Rungpore ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Cold and foggy towards the south; warmer at headquarters.	Generally favorable.	
Rajshahye Division. 14	Bograh ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Fine	The state of the rubee crops continues as good as before.	
Rajshahye Division. 15	Pubna ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Weather fair, and is getting warm. Rain wanted.	All the cold weather crops are doing well, except in some villages, where they have been injured to the extent of 4 annas by a species of small flies called jaab poka (জাব পোকা).	

* Telegram of the 18th February received on the same day.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.—(*Contd.*)						
	Central Districts.—(*Contd.*)	1873.				
Cooch Behar Divs. 16	Darjeeling ..	Feb. 15th	Nil.	Fair ...	Wheat, barley, and phaphar crops are progressing favorably in the hills. Cownie and samah have been sown. In the plains there are no crops; at present the land is being ploughed.	
17	Julpigoree ..	„ 15th	Nil.	Very warm for the time of the year.	Tobacco crop promising. A fair mustard crop is being gathered.	
	Cooch Behar ..	„ 15th	Nil.	Fine ...	Mustard seed is being cut, and ploughing for early rice crop is going on. A little rain would be beneficial to the tobacco and other crops.	
	Eastern Districts.					
Dacca Division. 18	Dacca ...	„ 18th*	Nil.	Weather fair and dry.	Safflower bad.—Rain wanted	
19	Furreedpore ..	„ 15th	Nil.	Weather dry and cold.	The rubee crop is suffering from the continued want of rain.	
20	Backergunge ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Fair and cold ...	State and prospects of crops very good.	
21	Mymensing ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Fine, bright weather, cool and pleasant. No rain during the week in any parts of the district.	The state of the boro dhan crop is satisfactory. Rain would be beneficial for agricultural operations.	Health of the district good. Small-pox and cholera have almost entirely disappeared.
22	Sylhet ..	„ 8th	Nil.	Hottish for this season.	Boro dhan has been wholly planted out.	
23	Cachar ..	„ 8th	0·14	Fair and very cool ...	No crops on the ground.	
Chittagong Divs. 24	Chittagong ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fine and dry, with northerly wind.	Reports generally favorable. Nothing new.	Cholera seems still decreasing.
25	Noakhally ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Morning and evening pretty cool; very hot sun during the day; occasionally high north wind at noon.	Cold weather crops good.	
26	Tipperah ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Seasonable ...	Quite satisfactory.	
27	Chittagong Hill Tracts	„ 8th	Nil.	Cold and bracing ...	The crops on the ground are doing well. The gathering of the mustard is nearly over. Tobacco progressing well.	
	Hill Tipperah ...	„ 8th	Nil	Dry, clear, and cold ...	No changes of any importance. Chillies doing well in the field.	
BEHAR						
Patna Divn. 28	Patna ...	„ 18th*	Nil.	Weather seasonable; light clouds hanging about on the morning of the 18th.	Prospects of rubbee crops and poppy continue favorable.	Health of the district good.
29	Gya ..	„ 15th	Slight showers on the 8th instant.	Fine, but towards Nowada unsettled.	The cold weather crops are promising; some rain wanted towards the north.	
30	Shahabad ...	„ 15th	Slight.	Weather warmer and cloudy, westwind during the week, and slight rain fell during the early part.	Peas and masoor are being harvested. The other crops are so far promising. No returns from Sasseeram and Buxar sub-divisions.	Small-pox has broken out in one or two places, otherwise the health of the district is good.

* Telegram of the 18th February received on the same day.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BEHAR.—(*Contd.*)		1873.				
Patna Divn.—(*Contd.*) 31	Tirhoot ...	Feb. 15th	Nil.	Fair	The mustard and tobacco crops are being harvested. The rubee continues to do well. Indigo plant coming up in many places. Rain is wanted in some places.	
32	Sarun ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Fine and seasonable...	No particular change since last week. Crops are generally doing well. Mustard and peas are being reaped. The poppy crop is in flower.	
33	Chumparun ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Fair. West wind ...	The prospects of the rubee crops continue fair; no change since last week.	
Bhaugulpore Divn. 34	Monghyr ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Very fine ...	The prospects of the crops continue very good.	
35	Bhaugulpore ...	„ 18th*	Nil.	No change in the weather since last week, which was much warmer.	Rain wanted everywhere for the crops.	
36	Purneah ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Dry, west wind blowing.	The rubee crops want rain, but on the whole are excellent.	
37	Sonthal Pergunnahs...	„ 15th	Nil.	Getting rapidly hot ...	No change from last week.	
ORISSA.						
Orissa Divn. 38	Cuttack ...	„ 18th*	Nil.	Weather cooler ...	Crops good.	
39	Pooree ..	„		Skies clear; wind southerly.	Mustard cut. Moog coming on well.	Some cholera cases of a malignant type have been occurring since the 2nd week of January.
40	Balasore ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Seasonable	No important crops on the ground now. The outturn of the paddy harvest has been very large.	
CHOTA NAGPORE.						
South-West Frontier Agency.						
41	Hazareebaugh ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Clear, cold, and seasonable.	With the exception of poppy, much of which is backward owing to the cultivators having to sow two or three times before any germinated, all the cold weather crops have been very good.	Small-pox still prevalent. Otherwise health of the district good.
42	Lohardaggah ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Seasonable ..	The reports of the rubee crops are on the whole favorable, but a shower of rain is much required, particularly in Palamow.	
43	Singbhoom ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Seasonable ...	Favorable ..	District healthy, except town of Chyebassa, where small-pox is prevailing.
44	Maunbhoom ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Fine and cool ...	Favorable ...	Small-pox has lately appeared in the station of Purulia.
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.						
45	Goalparah ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fair and moderately cold.	Cutting of mustard still continues, and that of sugarcane has commenced. Out-turn of both good. Produce of cotton fair.	
46	Kamroop ...	„ 17th†	Nil.	Weather rather warm, and fogs in the morning lighter.	Lands for aus crops being broken up, mustard seed nearly all gathered, and sugarcane being cut; pulse promises favorably.	Public health good.

* Telegram of the 18th February received on the same day.

† Telegram of the 17th February received on the 18th.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.—(*Contd.*)		1873.				
47	Durrung ...	Feb. 8th	0·12	Sultry days, cold mornings, wind variable. Thunder-storm on the 1st February.	Crops of mustard seed and sugarcane all looking well.	
48	Nowgong ...	,, 8th	Nil.	Weather cold; evenings pleasant.	Mustard being reaped. Ahu lands being ploughed. Tea good. Sugarcane promising.	
49	Seebsaugor ...	,, 8th	0·68	Bright, clear days; cold mornings and nights. Heavy thunder-storm on the 1st February 1873.	Cold weather crops—mustard and sugarcane—advancing.	Cholera decreased.
50	Luckimpore ...	,, 8th	0·68	Weather seasonable and generally favorable for agricultural operations. At North Lukimpore, cloudy on the 1st and heavy rain on the night of that day. Rest of the week fine. Thermometer. Maximum ... 79° Minimum ... 45°	Cutting of sugarcane commenced in places. Mustard doing well. Preparations for aus dhan commenced.	Public health satisfactory.
51	Naga Hills ...	,, 1st	Nil.	Clear and fine throughout the district.	The hill men are busy cutting their jooms.	
52	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	,, 8th A	Nil.	The weather has been much milder this week, and the season seems rapidly advancing.	The agriculturists are preparing their lands for the spring cultivation, but at present there are no crops on the ground.	
53	Garo Hills ...	,, 8th	Nil.	Fine throughout the week, but atmosphere very hazy. Nights cold and clear; gentle breezes, generally lasting throughout night, till 9 A.M. in the morning.	Jooms are being prepared.	

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA,
The 18th February 1873.

H. J. S. COTTON,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall, compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

Division.	District.	Station.	Rain from 26th Jan. to 1st Feb. 1873.	Rain from 2nd to 8th Feb. 1873.	Rain from 1st January 1873.		Remarks.
					Inches.	Up to date.	
BENGAL.			Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	1873.	
	Western Districts.						
Burdwan	Burdwan	Burdwan	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	8th Feb.	
		Cutwa	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Culna	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Bood-Bood	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Raneegunge	ditto	ditto	0·10	ditto.	
		Jehanabad	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Bancoorah	Bancoorah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Beerbhoom	Sooree	ditto	ditto	0·02	ditto.	
	Midnapore	Midnapore	ditto	ditto	0·18	ditto.	
		Tumlook	ditto	ditto	0·50	ditto.	
		Gurbetta	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Contai (Dy. Collr.'s Office)	Not rec.	ditto	ditto	ditto	Not received 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
		Contai (Exe. Engr.'s Office)	ditto	Not rec.	ditto	4th Jan.	
					ditto	8th Feb.	
	Hooghly	Hooghly	Nil.	Nil.			
		Serampore	ditto	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
	Howrah	Howrah	ditto	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
	Central Districts.						
Presidency.	24-Pergunnahs	Saugor Island	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Calcutta	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Alipore (Dispensary)	ditto	ditto	0·10	ditto.	
		Alipore (Jail)	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Busseerhaut	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Baraset	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Diamond Harbour	ditto	ditto	0·45	ditto.	
		Barripore	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Satkherah	ditto	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
		Barrackpore	ditto	ditto	0·07	ditto.	
		Dum-Dum	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Nuddea	Kishnaghur	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Bongong	ditto	ditto	0·11	ditto.	
		Meherpore	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Chooadangah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Kooshtea	ditto	ditto	0·24	ditto.	
		Ranaghat	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Jessore	Jessore	ditto	ditto	0·16	ditto.	
		Nurail	ditto	ditto	0·80	ditto.	
		Khoolneah	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Jemdah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Bagirhaut	Not rec.	ditto	ditto	ditto	Ditto ditto.
		Magoorah	Nil.	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
Rajshahye.	Moorshedabad	Berhampore	ditto	Nil.	0·29	ditto.	
		Ramporehaut	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		City Moorshedabad	ditto	0·11	0·25	ditto.	
		Junsipore	ditto	Nil.	0·83	ditto.	
		Azimgunge	ditto	0·29	0·33	ditto.	
	Dinagepore	Dinagepore	ditto	Not rec.	0·50	1st Feb.	
	Maldah	Maldah	ditto	Nil.	0·45	8th Feb.	
	Rajshahye	Beauleah	ditto	0·15	0·63	ditto.	
		Nattore	ditto	Nil.	0·51	ditto.	
	Rungpore	Rungpore	ditto	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
		Bhowanigunge	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Titalya	ditto	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
	Bograh	Bograh	ditto	ditto	0·22	ditto.	
	Pubna	Pubna	ditto	0·03	0·14	ditto.	
		Serajgunge	0·16	Not rec.	0·27	1st Feb.	
Cooch Behar.	Darjeeling	Darjeeling (Telegraph Office)	Not rec.	ditto	Nil.	15th Jan.	
		Darjeeling (Hospital)	0·02	Nil.	0·02	8th Feb.	
	Julpigoree	Julpigoree	Nil.	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
		Fallacotta	ditto	ditto	0·14	ditto.	
		Boda	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Cooch Behar Tributary State	Cooch Behar	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Bhutan Dooars	Buxa	ditto	ditto	0·44	ditto.	
	Eastern Districts.						
Dacca.	Dacca	Dacca (Telegraph Office)	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Dacca (Hospital)	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	Not received 12th to 18th January.
		Moonsheguuge	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	Ditto ditto.
		Manickgunge	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	Ditto ditto.
	Furreedpore	Furreedpore	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Goalundo	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Backergunge	Burrisaul	ditto	ditto	0·59	ditto.	
		Perozepore	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Madaripore	ditto	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
		Patoakhally	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	Not received 19th to 25th Jan.
		Dowlat Khan	ditto	ditto	0·22	ditto.	
	Mymensing	Mymensing	ditto	0·10	0·20	ditto.	
		Jamalpore	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Attiah	ditto	ditto	0·24	ditto.	
		Kishoregunge	ditto	0·10	0·30	ditto.	
	Sylhet	Sylhet	ditto	Nil.	0·83	ditto.	
	Cachar	Cachar	ditto	0·14	0·18	ditto.	
		Hylakandy	Not rec.	Not rec.	1·60	25th Jan.	Not received 5th to 11th Jan.
		Koyah	Nil.	0·19	0·66	8th Feb.	
Chittagong.	Chittagong	Chittagong (Telegraph Office)	ditto	Nil.	0·20	ditto.	
		Chittagong (Jail)	ditto	ditto	0·35	ditto.	
		Cox's Bazar	ditto	Not rec.	0·90	1st Feb.	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Rungamutee Hill	ditto	Nil.	0·40	8th Feb.	
	Noakhally	Noakhaily	ditto	ditto	0·01	ditto.	
	Tipperah	Comillah	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Brahmanbariah	ditto	0·05	0·07	ditto.	
	Hill Tipperah	Hill Tipperah	ditto	Nil.	0·29	ditto.	

Division.	District.	Station.	Rain from 26th Jan. to 1st February 1873.	Rain from 2nd to 8th Feb. 1873.	Rain from 1st January 1873.		Remarks.
					Inches.	Up to date.	
	BEHAR.		Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	1873.	
Patna.	Patna	Patna	0·02	Nil.	0·21	8th Feb.	
		Behar	Nil.	ditto	0·55	ditto.	
		Barh	ditto	0·05	0·16	ditto.	
		Dinapore—Jail	ditto	Nil.	0·21	ditto.	
		Dinapore—Cantonment	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Gya	Gya	ditto	ditto	0·17	ditto.	
		Nowadah	ditto	ditto	0·32	ditto.	
		Aurungabad	ditto	ditto	0·12	ditto.	
		Jehanabad	Not rec.	Not rec.	0·10	18th Jan.	
	Shahabad	Arrah	Nil.	0·06	0·38	8th Feb.	
		Sasseram	0·11	Nil.	0·11	ditto.	
		Buxar	0·10	0·10	0·50	ditto.	
		Bhubooah	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
	Tirhoot	Mozufferpore	ditto	ditto	2·20	ditto.	
		Durbangah	ditto	ditto	0·02	ditto	Not received 1st to 4th January.
		Hajipore	Not rec.	ditto	0·15	ditto	Not received 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
		Mudhubani	ditto	Not rec.	0·18	25th Jan.	
		Seetamaree	Nil.	Nil.	0·20	8th Feb.	
		Tajpore	ditto	ditto	0·25	ditto	Not received 1st to 4th and 12th to 25th January.
	Sarun	Chuprah	ditto	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
		Sewan	ditto	0·02	0·36	ditto.	
	Chumparun	Motechari	ditto	Nil.	0·90	ditto.	
		Bettiah	0·25	ditto	0·25	ditto.	
Bhaugulpore.	Monghyr	Monghyr	Nil.	ditto	0·34	ditto.	
		Begoosarai	ditto	ditto	0·47	ditto	Not received 5th to 11th January.
		Jamooie	ditto	ditto	0·46	ditto.	
	Bhaugulpore	Bhaugulpore	ditto	ditto	0·40	ditto.	
		Soopool	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Mudheypoorah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Banka	ditto	ditto	0·70	ditto.	
	Purneah	Purneah	ditto	ditto	0·27	ditto.	
		Kishengunge	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Arrareah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	Deoghur	ditto	ditto	0·29	ditto.	
		Jamtara	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Raimehal	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Pakour	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Nya-Doomka	ditto	ditto	0·26	ditto.	
		Godda	ditto	ditto	0·62	ditto.	
	ORISSA.						
Orissa.	Cuttack	Cuttack—Telegraph Office	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Cuttack—Hospital	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Jajipore	ditto	Not rec.	ditto	1st Feb.	
		Kendrapara	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Jugutsingpore	ditto	ditto	0·76	ditto.	
		False Point	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	8th Feb.	
	Pooree	Pooree	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Khoordah	0·06	ditto	0·08	ditto.	
	Balasore	Balasore	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Bhuddruck	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Cuttack Tributary Mehals	Sambalpore	Not rec.	Not rec.	.....	.....	
	CHOTA NAGPORE.						
	SOUTH-WESTERN FRONTIER AGENCY.						
	Hazareebaugh	Hazareebaugh—Jail	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	8th Feb.	
		Hazareebaugh—Dispensary	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Pachumba	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Lohardaggah	Ranchee	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Palamow	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Singbhoom	Chyebassa	ditto	ditto	0·19	ditto.	
	Maunbhoom	Purulia	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto	
		Gobindpore	Not rec.	ditto	ditto	ditto	Not received 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
	ASSAM & ADJACENT HILLS.						
	Goalparah	Goalparah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	Ditto ditto.
		Dhoobree	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	Ditto ditto.
	Kamroop	Gowhatty	Nil.	ditto	0·11	ditto.	
		Burpettah	ditto	ditto	0·30	ditto.	
	Durrung	Tezpore	ditto	Not rec.	0·49	1st Feb.	
		Mungledye	ditto	ditto	0·33	ditto.	
	Nowgong	Nowgong	ditto	Nil.	0·05	8th Feb.	
	Seebsaugor	Seebsaugor	ditto	Not rec.	1·21	1st Feb.	
		Golaghat	ditto	ditto	0·67	ditto.	
		Jorehaut	ditto	ditto	1·06	ditto.	
		Nazeerah	Not rec.	ditto	.....	.....	
	Luckimpore	Debrooghur	Nil.	ditto	0·85	1st Feb.	
		North Luckimpore	ditto	ditto	0·80	ditto.	
		Suddya	ditto	ditto	1·63	ditto.	
	Naga Hills	Samoogoodting	Not rec.	ditto	.....	.....	
	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	Shillong	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	8th Feb.	
		Jaowai	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Cherrapoonjee	ditto	0·04	0·25	ditto.	
	Garo Hills	Tura	ditto	Nil.	0·43	ditto.	
		Benares	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Akyab	ditto	ditto	0·60	ditto.	

CALCUTTA,
The 15th February 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 9th to 15th February 1873.

Stations.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	Barometer reduced to sea-level.	Thermometer. Dry.	Thermometer. Wet.	Humidity Sat. =100.	Wind. Direction.	Wind. Velocity.	Rain.	Clouds.	Weather initials.
Calcutta.	9th Feb.	10	30·009	30·027	76·8	71·4	75	W S W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·884	29·902	86·0	71·5	46	W N W	...	...	K	
	10th	10	30·061	30·079	77·5	63·9	43	N by E	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·927	29·945	83·5	64·0	29	N by E	...	...	.....	b
	11th	10	30·039	30·058	75·5	63·2	47	N E	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·908	29·926	84·3	65·5	31	N W	...	...	.....	b
	12th	10	30·102	30·121	75·0	60·3	37	N N E	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·964	29·982	82·3	62·5	28	N E	...	...	.....	b
	13th	10	30·093	30·111	71·1	59·4	45	N E	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·943	29·961	81·4	61·5	25	W N W	...	...	.....	b
	14th	10	30·057	30·076	72·7	60·6	45	N W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·928	29·946	81·8	61·5	25	W by N	...	...	.....	b
	15th	10	30·067	30·086	74·5	62·0	45	E N E	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·911	29·929	83·0	63·3	28	N W	..	...	.....	b
Saugor Island.	9th Feb.	10	30·043	30·049	78	74	81	W S W	4·2	...	C	b
		16	29·911	29·917	80	75	78	S S W	10·1	...	.....	b
	10th	10	30·060	30·066	80	65	40	N E	4·6	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·933	29·939	84	66	34	N	12·8	...	C	b
	11th	10	30·030	30·036	79	67	50	N N E	4·6	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·916	29·922	82	72	59	S	5·9	...	.....	b, m
	12th	10	30·104	30·110	77	62	38	N E	5·7	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·966	29·972	82	62	26	N	14·1	...	.....	b, m
	13th	10	30·100	30·106	74	62	47	N N W	6·9	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·978	29·984	81	61	25	N	12·2	...	.....	b, m
	14th	10	30·064	30·070	76	63	44	N N W	5·8	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·953	29·959	82	61	23	N	8·6	...	.....	b
	15th	10	30·066	30·072	76	64	48	N N W	4·8	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·964	29·970	81	67	44	W	5·3	...	.....	b
Chittagong.	9th Feb.	10	29·931	30·025	76	65	52	N	5·2	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·834	29·926	83	77	75	W	5·8	...	.....	b
	10th	10	29·956	30·050	77	68	60	N	4·4	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·842	29·934	83	71	52	W	8·5	...	.....	b
	11th	10	29·944	30·038	74	64	55	N N E	5·2	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·844	29·938	83	63	27	W N W	8·3	...	.....	b, m
	12th	10	30·018	30·112	75	60	36	N N E	4·3	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·870	29·962	83	63	27	W N W	9·2	...	.....	b, m
	13th	10	29·969	30·064	72	59	41	N N E	5·8	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·850	29·943	82	60	20	W	10·9	...	.....	b, m
	14th	10	29·946	30·040	73	60	42	N	6·4	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·827	29·920	82	62	26	W	9·2	...	.....	b, m
	15th	10	29·936	30·030	73	63	54	N E	6·6	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·807	29·899	83	65	33	W	9·0	...	.....	b, m
Madras.	8th Feb.	10	30·052	30·082	82	73	63	E N E	8	...	.....	
		16	29·945	29·975	82	73	63	E by N	7	...	.....	c
	9th	10	30·055	30·085	81	72	62	E by N	9	...	.....	b, c
		16	29·934	29·964	82	73	63	E by N	8	...	.....	c
	10th	10	30·064	30·094	80	71	62	E N E	5	...	.....	b
		16	29·933	29·963	81	72	62	E	5	...	.....	c
	11th	10	30·020	30·050	81	73	66	E by N	5	...	.....	b
		16	29·920	29·950	83	73	63	E by S	6	...	.....	c
	12th	10	30·046	30·076	80	73	70	E by S	3	...	.....	b
		16	29·933	29·963	83	75	67	E by N	8	...	.....	c
	13th	10	30·060	30·090	83	74	63	E N E	5	...	.....	b
		16	29·947	29·977	83	75	67	N E by E	9	...	.....	c, c
	14th	10	30·052	30·082	83	73	60	N E	9	...	.....	c
		16	29·947	29·977	83	74	63	N E by E	12	...	.....	c
	15th	10								...		
		16										
Cuttack.	8th Feb.	10	30·001	30·084	73	69	58	S W	1·2	...	.....	b
		16	29·868	29·950	89	70	35	E S E	2·6	...	.....	b
	9th	10	29·999	30·082	80	70	58	W	1·2	...	.....	b
		16	29·827	29·908	91	72	36	W	6·2	...	KS, C	
	10th	10	29·983	30·068	68	51	21	N E	2·4	...	.....	b
		16	29·855	29·937	88	69	34	E N E	3·9	...	.....	b
	11th	10	29·943	30·026	82	70	52	N N E	1·2	...	C	b
		16	29·840	29·921	91	72	36	E S E	3·0	...	C, K	
	12th	10	30·021	30·104	79	74	77	E	5·2	...	K N, C	
		16	29·873	29·955	87	73	48	E N E	3·9	...	KC	
	13th	10	30·006	30·089	81	66	41	N E	1·9	...	.....	b
		16	29·865	29·947	86	65	27	S E	4·0	...	.....	b
	14th	10	29·892	29·975	77	67	56	S W	0·7	...	.....	b
		16	29·868	29·950	87	68	33	N	2·6	...	.....	
	15th	10								...		
		16										
Akyab.	9th Feb.	10	29·993	30·015	75	66	59	N E	0·3	...	.....	b
		16	29·869	29·891	82	69	48	W	1·8	...	.....	b
	10th	10	29·998	30·020	82	69	48	N	0·1	...	.....	b
		16	29·863	29·884	84	72	53	N W	6·8	...	.....	b
	11th	10	29·985	30·007	81	65	38	N N W	1·2	...	.....	b
		16	29·846	29·867	85	69	41	W N W	2·5	...	.....	b
	12th	10	30·010	30·032	79	61	30	N	1·0	...	.....	b
		16	29·876	29·897	86	67	32	N W	7·1	...	.....	b
	13th	10	29·980	30·002	80	64	37	N	1·7	...	.....	b
		16	30·861	29·882	84	68	40	W N W	4·3	...	.....	b
	14th	10	29·990	30·012	76	65	52	E N E	0·8	...	.....	b
		16	29·892	29·914	80	68	44	W	1·6	...	.....	b
	15th	10	29·990	30·012	79	67	50	E N E	0·4	...	.....	b
		16	29·872	29·894	79	69	58	W	1·1	...	.....	b

• Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA,
The 15th February 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal.

Abstract of Observations as received in the Meteorological Reporter's Office, Calcutta,

DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 1872.

N.B.—The Barometric data are reduced for temperatures, and not for height above sea-level.

STATIONS.	Height above sea-level.	BAROMETER. Mean of	Mean of 4 hours.	Mean of 10 hours.	Mean of 16 hours.	Mean of 22 hours.	Range.	TEMPERATURE OF AIR. Radiation. Solar. Mean.	Solar. Max. Day.	Solar. Max. ⊖	Gross Nocturnal. Mean.	Gross Nocturnal. Min. Day.	Gross Nocturnal. Min. ⊖	Mean of max.	Mean daily range.	Mean of min.	Mean.	Mean of 4 hours.	Mean of 10 hours.	Mean of 16 hours.	Mean of 22 hours.	Highest Max. Day.	Highest Max. ⊖	Monthly range.	Lowest Min. Day.	Lowest Min. ⊖	HUMIDITY. Mean.	Mean of 4 hours.	Mean of 10 hours.	Mean of 16 hours.	Mean of 22 hours.	RAINFALL. In inches.	No. of days.
Port Blair ...	100	29·802	...	29·845	29·760	...	·085	147·0	18th	163·0	...	...	...	86·9	9·7	77·2	81·	...	85·5	84·8	...	13-15th	89·0	15·0	27th	74·0	...	...	71	71	...	5·10	13
Madras ...	27	29·887	...	29·939	29·838	...	·101	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78·5	...	80·4	82·7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	73	...	27·08	18
Vizagapatam ...	31	29·811	29·883	29·971	29·863	29·920	·108	...	...	...	...	...	...	81·9	4·5	77·4	79·7	77·9	80·1	81·1	79·8	9th	85·0	11·0	3rd	74·0	69	72	67	67	70	3·50	5
Akyab ...	21	29·904	29·881	29·955	29·850	29·929	·015	140·4	17th	147·0	...	...	...	86·5	17·3	69·2	77·7	71·8	81·6	83·5	74·4	12th	89·8	27·2	24-25th	62·6	84	94	77	72	93	0·01	1
False Point ...	18·7	29·953	29·938	30·001	29·903	29·967	·101	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77·9	74·4	78·8	80·4	77·9	...	.	...	...	...	73	76	73	72	71	4·05	2
Cuttack ...	80	29·901	29·883	29·948	29·858	29·913	·090	138·2	15th	151·5	55·4	28th	45·1	86·4	21·2	65·2	75·3	67·5	79·5	82·5	71·7	14-15th	91·0	32·4	28th	58·6	71	88	60	53	84	2·07	2
Saugor Island ...	6	29·954	29·927	30·012	29·903	29·975	·109	139·8	6th	145·4	62·8	27th	54·0	81·8	15·1	66·7	75·4	69·7	78·9	81·2	71·9	14th	85·9	26·8	28th	59·1	71	85	64	55	81	0·05	1
Chittagong ...	90	29·818	29·823	29·897	29·801	29·872	·093	141·1	23rd	158·0	66·6	28th	60·3	85·8	19·3	66·5	76·2	69·2	79·4	82·3	73·7	12th	90·0	28·6	25th	61·4	81	94	75	69	85	Nil	...
Calcutta ...	18·11	29·945	29·919	30·008	29·892	29·962	·116	137·5	5th	148·5	...	...	...	83·7	13·4	70·3	76·6	71·1	79·1	81·9	74·5	6th	88·0	24·8	27th	63·4	74	86	67	59	82	0·02	1
Jessore ...	20	29·930	29·915	29·993	29·883	29·964	·110	139·3	4th	147·6	58·3	26th	48·9	85·7	20·4	65·3	74·9	66·7	80·7	82·1	70·1	6th	90·0	32·8	26th	57·2	74	93	61	55	89	Nil	...
Dacca ...	35	29·916	29·894	29·972	29·864	29·933	·108	139·8	1st	146·8	60·0	28th	53·5	84·6	18·1	66·5	75·7	64·3	80·8	81·9	71·9	6th	90·6	30·3	28th	60·3	74	89	65	57	85	Nil	...
Cachar ...	88·91	29·867	29·852	29·937	29·802	29·879	·135	128·6	3rd	139·0	59·2	29·30th	51·0	85·4	21·7	63·7	73·7	65·3	75·9	83·1	70·6	5th	90·0	33·0	30th	57·0	81	89	78	69	89	0·04	1
Hazareebangh ...	2014	27·910	27·917	27·992	27·828	27·952	·094	139·1	7th	155·0	47·9	27th	37·0	77·7	18·7	59·0	67·9	61·7	71·5	73·9	64·5	2nd	84·8	35·3	27th	49·5	69	69	53	50	67	Nil	...
Berhampore ...	64	29·903	29·887	29·962	29·841	29·912	·121	144·4	1st	154·0	61·0	28th	51·0	84·8	18·8	66·0	75·4	69·3	79·1	82·7	70.6	1st	89·5	32·5	28th	57·0	76	92	68	55	90	Nil	...
Gya ...	336	29·023	29·597	29·686	29·587	29·641	·119	125·1	7th	134·5	53·8	28th	41·5	83·1	23·7	59·4	72·2	62·4	76·7	81·2	68·5	7th	87·2	38·2	28th	49·0	56	76	48	37	64	Nil	...
Patna ...	179	29·794	29·770	29·850	29·739	29·818	·111	141·5	7-8th	148·0	54·6	28th	43·0	83·5	22·6	59·9	71·9	61·9	78·2	80·9	66·8	9th	86·3	37·5	28th	48·8	57	73	44	42	70	Nil	...
Monghyr ...	160·4	29·815	29·786	29·881	29·766	23·826	·115	135·9	5th	143·0	49·6	28th	42·1	82·4	18·2	64·2	73·1	66·0	75·6	81·0	69·6	4th	86·8	30·3	28th	53·5	66	81	63	48	73	Nil	...
Darjeeling ...	6,945	23·445	23·436	23·460	23·428	23 457	·034	118·9	30th	134·0	38·3	30th	33·0	63·1	20·2	42·9	51·8	44·5	58·8	58·2	47·8	6th	69·0	32·0	30th	37·0	71	76	60	67	81	0·05	1
Goalparah ...	386	29·597	29·594	29·655	29·529	29·612	·126	119·6	1st	135·0	61·5	3·th	58·0	80·1	17·7	62·4	71·8	64·8	73·7	77·9	71·0	1st	86·0	29·4	30th	56·6	80	93	79	67	82	Nil	...
Shillong ...	4,792	25·284	...	25·321	25·248	25·299	·073	136·9	3rd	145·5	36·6	30th	29·0	66·0	16·1	49·9	68·3	...	63·9	63·4	55·0	11th	71·0	27·0	27th	44·0	...	...	61	74	85	Nil	...
Beauries ...	262·74	29·735	29·723	29·794	29·688	29 738	·106	132·4	7-8th	142·0	...	...	...	84·9	31·6	53·3	69·5	56·6	78·7	83·3	61·5	3rd	91·0	48.5	11th	42·5	64	84	44	46	82	Nil	...
Roorkee ...	879·7	29·109	29·120	29·111	29·083	29·121	·028	135·8	22nd	143·7	44·6	26-28th	35·5	83·5	33·0	50·5	66·3	53 3	73.7	78·9	59·3	24th	89·2	48.5	26-27th	4·7	59	81	44	34	77	Nil	...

CALCUTTA—November 1872.

Mean Barometric pressures of 16 years	...	29·966	Mean temperature of 16 years	...	74·7	Mean humidity of 16 years	...	73	Mean rainfall of 16 years	...	1·09
Ditto ditto in 1872	...	29·945	Ditto ditto in 1872	...	76·6	Ditto ditto in 1872	...	74	Actual fall in 1872	...	0·02
Defect in 1872	...	·021	Excess in 1872	...	1·9	Excess in 1872	...	1	Defect in 1872	...	1·07

CALCUTTA,
The 15th February 1873.

HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Mean pressures and temperatures of the preceding table reduced to sea-level, with Anemometric results and observations of sky serenity.

STATIONS.	Mean barometric pressures reduced to sea-level.	Mean temperature reduced to sea-level.	WIND. North.	North-East.	East.	South-East.	South.	South-West.	West.	North-West.	Calm.	Percentage and Resultant.	Mean velocity daily.	Mean serenity.
													Miles.	
Port Blair ...	29·905	81·3	1	46	2	8	...	...	..	3	...	81 N 52 E	...	4·55
Madras ...	29·915	78·6	25	25	4	...	...	2	3	...	...	76 N 23 E	236·4	...
Vizagapatam ...	29·943	79·8	5	19	68	5	4	3	5	11	...	60 N 77 E	91·9	6·98
Akyab ...	29·926	77·7	15	18	17	...	3	6	24	31	...	41 N 26 W	18·7	7·88
False Point ...	29·972	77·9	41	49	1	2	...	...	..	10	17	71 N 20 E	...	...
Cuttack ...	29·984	75·5	39	10	...	...	...	...	21	41	8	73 N 30 W	45·8	8·71
Saugor Island ...	29·980	75·4	50	36	3	...	...	1	6	17		77 N 6 E	94·7	7·00
Chittagong ...	29·942	76·4	34	3	3	...	...	4	27	41	5	70 N 41 W	79·5	8·81
Calcutta ...	29·964	76·6	47	32	11	...	...	...	7	23	...	75 N 7 E	71·0	...
Jessore ...	29·960	74·9	56	6	5	2	2	7	1	17	23	54 N 7 W	44·1	9·17
Dacca ...	29·952	75·7	44	4	2	2	1	3	9	39	9	21 N 25 W	44·4	8·94
Cachar ...	.....	73·9	3	24	28	10	4	8	8	3	27	32 N 82 E	60·4	7·00
Hazareebaugh ...	29·982	73·6	23	18	5	8	1	5	15	40	5	49 N 23 W	62·9	8·76
Berhampore ...	29·966	75·6	29	13	1	...	...	7	6	14	42	40 N 14 W	26·5	8·35
Gya ...	29·970	73·2	7	6	9	15	7	1	1	21	52	9 N 43 W	20·9	9·05
Patna ...	29·981	72·4	10	13	10	5	5	14	14	16	27	15 N 27 W	23·6	9·47
Monghyr ...	29·981	73·5	15	6	...	2	1	38	25	10	23	44 S 87 W	31·4	8·95
Darjeeling ...	30·015	71·7	1	3	16	25	14	15	31	7	8	30 S 17 W	...	6·05
Gowalparah ...	29·995	72·9	1	9	76	18	3	8	5	...	...	71 S 81 E	...	6·32
Shillong ...	29·946	71·9	19	...	13	4	3	...	6	12	33	26 N 3 E	40·2	7·01
Benares ...	30·009	70·2	...	6	14	3	2	16	28	3	47	19 S 67 W	28·6	9·16
Roorkee ...	.....	68·8	...	7	...	13	...	13	...	5	82	8 S 6 E	30·4	9·67

NOTE.

Barometric Pressure.—The pressures in column 2 of the above table for all stations below 500 feet are reduced from those given in column 3 of the table on the previous page by adding the weight of a column of air of the corresponding temperatures given in column 17. For stations of above 500 feet elevation, the reduction is made by Dippe's tables as given in Guyot's "Meteorological and Physical Tables." The temperatures at the sea-level are taken from column 3 of the above table.

Temperature.—The temperatures in column 3 are reduced from those in column 17 on the preceding page by adding 1° Fahr. for every 350 feet.

Wind Resultant.—The resultant wind direction and the comparative predominance are calculated from the whole number of wind observations recorded during the month. The relative predominance in the direction of the resultant is given as a percentage of the whole number of observations. The direction is computed in the usual way by Lambert's formula.

Serenity.—This column gives the average proportion of unclouded sky; a cloudless sky being indicated by 10 and one completely overcast by 0.

The above being all comparable, afford the data for constructing a meteorological chart for the month, which shall show the isobaric and isothermal lines and the resultant wind directions, which last may be represented by arrows of varying length, proportioned to the prevalence of the wind. To these may be added the rainfall from the previous tables.

CALCUTTA,
The 15th February 1873.

HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 8th to 14th February 1873.

Month.	Date.	Mean reduced barometer.	Thermometer.			Mean dry bulb.	Mean wet bulb.	Computed mean dew-point.	Mean degree of humidity.	Wind.			Rain.	Moon's phases.	General Remarks.
			Highest reading.	Lowest reading.	Max. solar radiation.					Prevailing direction.	Max. pressure.	Daily velocity.			
		Inches.	○	○	○	○	○	○			lb	Miles.	In.		
Feb. ...	8th	29·093	84·0	63·0	135·0	72·8	66·5	61·5	0·69	W N W & W by N	...	26·5	...	...	Clear. Slightly foggy at 5 and 6 A.M.
	9th	·948	86·5	65·2	141·0	75·2	68·9	64·5	·71	W & W & S S W	...	50·8	...	...	Chiefly clear. Slightly foggy from 4 to 7 A.M.
	10th	·972	84·3	67·5	135·0	74·8	65·8	59·5	·61	N & N by W	...	102·6	...	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from 8 to 11 P.M.
	11th	·960	84·3	63·0	139·0	73·1	63·4	55·6	·56	N N E & N W	...	75·6	...	○	Clear. Slightly foggy at Midnight and 1 A.M., and from 8 to 10 P.M.
	12th	30·005	83·0	62·6	136·5	71·8	61·0	52·4	·53	N N E & N E	0·2	101·4	...	...	Clear. Foggy from 8 to 11 P.M.
	13th	29·998	81·5	59·5	138·7	69·6	59·9	52·1	·56	N E & N W	0·2	90·6	...	...	Clear. Foggy from Midnight to 6 A.M.
	14th	·982	82·2	58·5	135·0	69·9	59·9	51·9	·55	N W	...	102·9	...	...	Clear. Slightly foggy at 9 and 10 P.M.

The mean barometer as likewise the dry and wet bulb thermometer means are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants.—The figures in column 10 represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity. The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1½ feet, and that of the anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground. The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of temperature during the past seven days	...	⊖ 28·0
The max. temperature during the past seven days	...	86·5
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	82·0
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	0·60
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	0·72
		Inches.
The total fall of rain from 8th to 14th ... by lower rain gauge	...	Nil.
The total fall of rain from 8th to 14th ... by anemometer gauge	...	Nil.
Ditto ditto ditto average of nineteen previous years	..	0·45
Ditto ditto between the 1st January and the 14th February	...	Nil.
Ditto ditto ditto ditto, average of nineteen previous years	...	1·06

GOPEENAUTH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

The 17th February 1873.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—JUBBULPORE LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 1st February 1873, on 223¼ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.			Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.			Total receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	5,419	16,151 1 7	1,480 10 5	72,741 0	23,787 9 0	2,180 19 6	3,661 0 11
Or per mile of railway	.....	72 4 3	6 12 6	.....	106 6 11	9 15 1	16 7 7
For previous 4 weeks of half-year ...	17,536	55,124 9 1	5,053 1 8	235,277 0	77,050 11 6	7,062 19 8	12,116 1 4
Total for 5 weeks	22,955	71,275 10 8	6,533 12 1	308,018 0	10,038 4 6	9,243 10 2	15,777 2 3
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	5,746	17,270 2 6	1,583 1 11	69,369 20	18,435 7 6	1,689 18 4	3,273 0 3
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	77 7 1	7 2 0	.....	82 10 9	7 11 7	14 13 7
Total to corresponding date of previous year	26,267	80,481 9 8	7,377 9 7	386,294 30	99,337 15 6	9,105 19 7	16,483 9 2

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—MAIN LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 1st February 1873, on 1,280 miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	114,039	1,81,488 11 10	16,656 9 4	811,399 30	362,505 6 6	37,235 3 4	49,871 12 8
Or per mile of railway	.....	141 12 7	12 19 11	.....	283 4 1	29 19 4	38 19 3
For previous 4 weeks of half-year...	356,705	5,41,147 0 0	49,605 2 10	2,534,932 0	13,63,385 6 9	124,976 19 11	174,582 2 9
Total for 5 weeks	470,744	7,22,635 11 10	66,241 12 2	3,346,331 30	17,25,950 13 3	158,212 3 3	224,453 15 5
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	105,928	1,80,544 4 2	16,549 17 10	769,002 30	4,74,858 9 3	43,528 14 1	60,078 11 11
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	141 0 9	12 18 7	.....	379 15 9	34 0 2	46 18 9
Total to corresponding date of previous year	484,114	7,52,206 8 6	68,957 15 4	3,577,915 20	23,50,719 9 5	213,649 5 11	282,607 1 3

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 1st February 1873, on 156½ miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	40,960	31,624 15 3	2,898 19 0	124,378 12	24,582 8 9	2,253 8 0	5,152 7 0
Or per mile of railway	.....	202 1 2	18 10 5	795 0	157 1 3	14 8 0	32 18 5
For previous 4 weeks of half-year	105,175	88,865 15 6	8,146 0 11	327,523 22	80,540 6 0	7,382 17 3	15,528 18 2
Total for 5 weeks	146,135	1,20,490 14 9	11,044 19 11	451,900 34	1,05,122 14 9	9,636 5 3	20,681 5 2
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	31,437½	23,689 0 5	2,171 9 10	109,018 34	20,614 3 3	1,889 12 9	4,061 2 7
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	200	151 5 11	13 17 6	697 0	131 11 6	12 1 6	25 19 0
Total to corresponding date of previous year	159,018½	1,01,151 19 7	9,272 4 8	491,273 22	1,01,194 1 3	9,276 2 6	18,548 7 1

NALHATI STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 1st February 1873, on 27¼ miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	1,739	1,256 0 0	125 12 0	5,671 0	511 0 0	51 2 0	176 14 0
Or per mile of railway	64	46 0 0	4 12 0	108 0	19 0 0	1 18 0	6 10 6
For previous 4 weeks of half-year...	5,715½	4,102 0 0	410 4 0	22,087 0	1,818 0 0	181 16 0	592 0 0
Total for 5 weeks	7,454½	5,358 0 0	535 16 0	27,758 0	2,329 0 0	233 18 0	768 14 0
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

NALHATI STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 8th February 1873, *on* 27¼ *miles open.*

	Coaching Traffic.			Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.			Total receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	1,417	1,038 0 0	103 16 0	5,689 0	528 0 0	52 16 0	156 12 0
Or per mile of railway	52	38 0 0	3 16 0	208 0	19 0 0	1 18 0	5 14 0
For previous 5 weeks of half-year...	7,454½	5,358 0 0	535 16 0	27,758 0	2,329 0 0	232 18 0	768 14 0
Total for 6 weeks ...	8,871½	6,396 0 0	639 12 0	33,438 0	2,857 0 0	285 14 0	925 6 0
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 8th February 1873, *on* 28 *miles open.*

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	8,655	1,295 0 0	129 10 0	19,140 0	604 0 0	60 8 0	189 18 0
Or per mile of railway	309	46 0 0	4 12 0	684 0	21 8 0	2 3 0	6 15 0
For previous 5 weeks of half-year	42,663	6,071 0 0	607 2 0	68,616 0	2,324 0 0	232 8 0	839 10 0
Total for 6 weeks	51,318	7,366 0 0	736 12 0	87,756 0	2,928 0 0	292 16 0	1,029 8 0
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	8,275½	1,208 6 9	120 16 10	14,090 20	488 6 6	48 16 10	169 13 8
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	296	43 2 7	4 6 4	524 26	17 7 1	1 14 11	6 1 3
Total to corresponding date of previous year	50,866½	7,042 7 3	704 4 11	90,688 0	2,390 1 6	239 0 3	943 5 2

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 8th February 1873, *on* 156½ *miles open.*

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	32,037	33,558 7 3	3,076 3 10	169,829 9	29,436 7 9	2,698 6 11	5,774 10 9
Or per mile of railway	205	214 6 11	19 13 2	1,085 0	188 1 6	17 4 10	36 18 0
For previous 5 weeks of half-year	146,135	1,20,490 14 9	11,044 19 11	451,900 34	1,05,122 14 9	9,636 5 3	20,681 5 2
Total for 6 weeks ...	178,172	1,54,049 6 0	14,121 3 9	621,730 3	1,34,559 6 6	12,334 12 2	26,455 15 11
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	28,942½	20,539 6 11	1,882 15 8	138,564 4	26,566 7 2	2,435 5 2	4,318 0 10
Per mile of railway, corresponding week of previous year ...	185	131 3 10	12 0 7	904 23	169 12 1	15 11 3	27 11 10
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	187,961	1,21,691 1 6	11,155 0 4	629,837 26	1,27,760 8 5	11,711 7 8	22,866 8 0

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1873.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, the 15th February 1873.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *presiding.*
The Hon'ble G. C. PAUL, *Acting Advocate-General.*
The Hon'ble F. L. BEAUFORT,
The Hon'ble V. H. SCHALCH,
The Hon'ble C. E. BERNARD,
The Hon'ble MOULVIE ABDOOL LUTEEF, KHAN BAHADOOR,
The Hon'ble B. D. COLVIN,
The Hon'ble T. M. ROBINSON,
The Hon'ble F. F. WYMAN,
The Hon'ble RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE, BAHADOOR,
AND
The Hon'ble BABOO DEGUMBER MITTER.

SALT ACT AMENDMENT.

ON the motion of the Hon'ble Mr. Beaufort, the Bill to amend the Salt Act, 1864, was passed.

MOFUSSIL MUNICIPALITIES.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT moved for leave to bring in a Bill to amend the District Municipal Improvement Act and the District Towns' Act. He said this Bill had been prepared with reference to the remarks which had been

made by His Honor the President at the last meeting of the Council in relation to the Municipalities' Bill which had not been assented to by the Viceroy. The Bill which Mr. Beaufort now moved for leave to bring in was a very short one. It was intended to remove three defects in the present municipal law. The first section of the Bill provided that the Lieutenant-Governor might, if he thought fit, direct that in any Municipality created under Bengal Act III of 1864, the Municipal Commissioners should be elected instead of being appointed by the order of Government. The second section empowered the Lieutenant-Governor to delegate to the Municipal Commissioners appointed under Act III of 1864, the power of electing their own Vice-Chairman, instead of leaving it to the Government to appoint him. And the third and fourth sections were intended to empower municipal bodies to expend a portion of their funds on objects other than those enumerated in the laws by which they were governed. As regards the District Municipal Improvement Act, it was proposed to give the Municipal Commissioners power to expend a part of their funds in the establishment and maintenance of schools, the establishment and maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries, and the promotion of vaccination. And as regards the District Towns' Act, it was proposed to allow the Committee to establish and maintain schools where the majority of the Committee was of opinion that any school was required. It was not proposed to make such expenditure in any way compulsory, but merely to give the municipal body power to devote a portion of the municipal funds to that purpose, if they thought it right to do so. Under Bengal Act VI of 1868 the Municipality was already empowered to expend a portion of its funds on the establishment and maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries and the promotion of vaccination. The exercise of these powers would, under the Bill, be wholly voluntary. He thought that it would be unnecessary to trouble the Council with any further explanations on the present occasion.

His Honor the President said, the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill had explained its object and its character; and it was not necessary that His Honor should add many words of his own to what had been already said. The hon'ble member had told the Council that the object of the Bill was to implement (if he might use such a word) the sanction which had been accorded by His Excellency the Viceroy in regard to the alteration of these provisions of the existing Municipal Acts. The Bill which was placed before the Council was confined as far as possible to the particular provisions in regard to which the Viceroy had intimated in the letter before the Council that he was willing to consider amendments in the present law. There was only one small provision in regard to which the Bill went somewhat beyond the four corners of that letter. The Viceroy had told us that he was willing to consider any proposal for legalising voluntary contributions by Municipalities towards the furtherance of education. In considering the Acts with which the Council were now dealing, His Honor found that whereas neither of the Acts admitted of contributions for education, one of the Acts (and that the Act most lately passed and approved by the Council, namely, Act VI of 1868) admitted of the application of the funds of Municipalities to the establishment and maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries and the promotion of vaccination. He thought that possibly the Council which passed that law would be willing, as most consonant with the views expressed in their latest enactment, that such voluntary power should be extended to Municipalities constituted under Act III of 1864. And in that view we had ventured to put that provision in the Bill. His Honor had no wish, by any influence of his own, to press that provision on the Council; but if the Council thought proper to accept that provision, he should be glad that such a law should be enacted.

The motion was agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beaufort said, that as leave had been given to introduce the Bill, he begged to apply to His Honor the President to suspend the Rules, to enable him to move that the Bill be read in Council. The whole question of Municipalities had already been so thoroughly discussed by the Council that he thought it was scarcely necessary to postpone the motion for the

reading of the Bill in order again to consider the subject. He proposed to avoid the delay of a week by asking for the suspension of the Rules, in order that the Bill might now be read in Council and published for general information.

His Honor the President said, considering that the principle of the provisions of the Bill had so lately been sanctioned by the Council, and that His Excellency the Viceroy had also intimated his concurrence in that principle, he thought he should not be wrong in suspending the Rules in order that the Bill might now be read in Council. He would therefore declare the Rules suspended.

The Rules having been suspended—

The Hon'ble Mr. Beaufort moved that the Bill be read in Council, and referred to a Select Committee, consisting of the Hon'ble Messrs. Bernard, Robinson, Wyman, Degumber Mitter, Rajah Joteendro Mohun Tagore, and the mover, with instructions to report in a fortnight.

His Honor the President said, before putting the motion to the Council he should wish to say one word. He had already informed the Council that he was not prepared to undertake another general Municipal Bill, nor to attempt reforms of a very radical character. The reforms proposed were confined to one or two limited things. He had considered whether it might be possible so to amend our latest Act, VI of 1868, as to make that Act admit of real self-government. But he had come to the conclusion that the structure of that Act was so entirely of a different character, that its principal provisions were so entirely drawn on other principles and with other views, that it would not be possible so to amend the Act without making a radical alteration in the construction of the Act. So much freedom of self-government was conceded by the Act, that under section 42, in case the Magistrate of the district was the President of the Committee, the preparation of the budget and other functions might be entrusted to the Committee sitting with the Magistrate. Under these circumstances, also, power was reserved to the Commissioner of the division to alter the budget and insert such things in it as he might think fit. The whole Act, therefore, being of a different structure, His Honor had not ventured to propose any alteration of that Act beyond the power voluntarily to contribute towards education, as had been suggested by His Excellency the Viceroy.

Then, as regards Act III of 1864, the circumstances were materially different. That Act was not in such detail as Act VI of 1868. It did not contain many express provisions beyond carrying out the somewhat general provisions of the old laws on the subject of Municipalities. Sections 15 and 16 were the provisions in the Act regarding the objects to which the municipal funds might be applied, one being compulsory, the other voluntary; that was to say, Section 15 laid down that certain things—the construction and maintenance of roads, conservancy, and such like—should be done by the Commissioners. Section 16 laid down that certain other things might be done by the Commissioners with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor. We proposed to put education amongst the things enumerated in Section 16, that is, to make it a voluntary subject to which the municipal funds might be applied. As regards Section 15, it seemed to His Honor that the Act might so far be ineffectual that although the things to be done were compulsory, no means were provided for remedying the neglect of the Commissioners to do those things. The only remedy placed in the hands of the Government was that the Commissioners might be removed at the pleasure of Government and others might be appointed in their stead. If we parted with this power, it might be necessary to introduce into the Act express provisions to enable the Government to remedy laches and neglect on the part of the Committee, which would have amounted to a radical re-construction of the Act.

Without some radical re-construction of the Act elective institutions could not be attempted on any large scale, but it could only be done on a small and comparatively limited scale. And being anxious that the trial of the principle

of self-government should be made under favorable circumstances, His Honor was ready to risk it so far as to let the Bill err rather on the side of too great freedom than a restriction of freedom; rather there should be wanting some power on the part of Government, than there should be too much power. Although there might be some difficulty in enforcing the provisions of Section 15, he would rather that in the towns selected for the trial of self-governing Municipalities, the elected Commissioners should have too much than too little freedom of action. And if in any degree they failed in performing their duties, we would be repaid by their using in a real manner the freedom of self-government.

There was only one more provision in respect of which His Honor had somewhat hesitated whether he should recommend any alteration. The Council were aware that the District Municipal Improvement Act, III of 1864, provided for the taxation of real property by a house-rate levied on the letting value of the property. He was told by many experienced men that in towns in the interior that system of assessment was difficult of operation; and although the law was nominally carried out it was not really obeyed, and it was suggested that the assessment should be made, not on the real letting value of the property, but on the means and capacity of the house-holder. It would be for the Select Committee, to whom this Bill would be referred, to consider whether by some means we might not introduce an alternative provision corresponding to the mode of assessment laid down by Act VI of 1868; that was to say, providing that instead of the tax being levied on the letting value of a house, the assessment might be made on householders according to their means and substance, if the Municipality so desired. His Honor did not intend to propose to the Council any such provision, but merely threw out the suggestion, if in Committee hon'ble members thought the change desirable and found it possible without a radical re-construction of the Act, he should be prepared to agree to it.

The motion was agreed to.

EMIGRATION TO THE LABOR DISTRICTS.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beaufort moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the law relating to the emigration of laborers to the districts of Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet, and to regulate contract-labor and service. In doing so, he said hon'ble members might think, from looking at the Bill placed before them, that it was a very long Bill, and would entail a great deal of trouble. He might re-assure their minds by telling them that it was only an old friend in a new dress. It was indeed little more than the present Act II of 1870 re-arranged throughout with some modifications. It was found necessary to make some amendments in the law, and the opportunity had been taken to divide the Act into Parts and Chapters. Most of the alterations were of such a nature that they would be most conveniently considered by the members of the Committee, to whom the Bill would in due course be submitted if he obtained leave to introduce it.

As the present law had not been sub-divided into Parts and Chapters, it was somewhat difficult to find the provisions relating to any particular question. The re-arrangement of the Act in the Bill was made with the object of clearness and convenience only; but as hon'ble members had not had an opportunity of examining the Bill, he would not trouble the Council with any lengthened remarks on the present occasion. As he believed, however, that none of the members of the Council as at present constituted, were in the Council at the time when the previous discussions on this subject had taken place, perhaps it might be convenient to say a few words regarding the course which legislation had taken. The Council were aware that tea had become an important branch of the commerce of the country. From the first, however, it had been found impossible to carry on this cultivation by indigenous labor: very little was to be had in the tea-producing districts, and the planters consequently found that it was

absolutely necessary to import labor from other districts. But the emigration of coolies from Behar or the Sonthal Pergunnahs or Chota Nagpore to districts so far east as Assam and Cachar, was a very different thing from the annual emigration of Bhunwa coolies to the indigo factories; and therefore it soon became necessary that the Government should interfere for the purpose of regulating the emigration of such large bodies of men to districts far from their homes, of which the emigrants were utterly ignorant. It was about ten years ago that this subject first came before the Council, and Act III of 1863 was passed for regulating the recruiting and transport of laborers. After the experience of two years it was found necessary to enact further rules for the protection of the emigrants after they had arrived in the tea districts. A very short time had however elapsed before considerable defects in the law were found, and a Bill was introduced in 1867 for consolidating and amending the law, and was thoroughly discussed in Council, and he believed was passed through all its stages but did not become law. The subject then remained in abeyance for two years more. In 1869 it was again taken up, and a Bill was introduced by the then Advocate-General, Mr. Cowie, with the assistance of the Hon'ble Mr. Eden, for consolidating and amending the law; and very considerable discussion took place, which resulted in the passing of the Act now in force, Act II of 1870. Since the passing of that law two more years had elapsed; and further experience had brought to light certain other latent defects which it was proposed to remedy by the present Bill.

The Bill did not propose any material alterations in any part of the law. But it provided for the amendment of certain small defects. The subject naturally divided itself into three portions: the first was the recruitment of laborers; the second, their transport to the tea districts; and the third, their protection after arrival at the plantations: and the Bill had been arranged accordingly. The recruitment of laborers had been formerly carried on solely by the agency of contractors, who were men of some substance residing in Calcutta, and who sent up their emissaries to the districts of Behar and other places to collect coolies. Now, these emissaries, called recruiters, were men probably very little known to the contractors; they were men whom the contractors picked up with difficulty to undertake a work involving much trouble, hardship, and annoyance; and they were certainly entirely unknown to the officers of the Government who had to superintend the work of emigration. It had been found, consequently, that the men sent up had had recourse to much deception, and had induced the coolies to emigrate to the tea districts under contracts to labor for fixed periods, on representations which were very erroneous and by promises which were proved to be false. It was not surprising that considerable difficulties had arisen therefrom. Under the present law, the Superintendent of Labor Transport, on the prayer of the contractor, granted a license to recruit, and the recruiter had to produce this license to the Magistrate of the district in which he desired to recruit, and to obtain his countersignature. Practically, the Superintendent made an enquiry through the Magistrate, but the responsibility lay on himself, and it sometimes happened that he did not feel himself justified in refusing a license to a man for whose conduct he had no security beyond the respectability of the contractor. The Bill proposed to take away from the Superintendent of Labor Transport, who appeared in the Bill under the name of Superintendent of Emigration, the responsibility of giving certificates to recruiters, and to vest it in the hands of the local Magistrates, who were required, before they enabled recruiters to go into the interior to recruit, to ascertain that they were men who could be trusted—men who would not hold out false promises of the advantages to be obtained in the unknown land to which the emigrants were about to consign themselves.

Another system of recruiting, more in favor with most planters, and which certainly appeared to be far superior to the system of obtaining emigrants through contractors and recruiters, was by men who were called "garden-sirdars." They were generally laborers who having proceeded to the tea districts under contract, and having worked out the terms of their contract, liking the place and liking their masters, desired that their friends and relatives

in their native country should have the opportunity of obtaining the same benefits which they had enjoyed, and with this view undertook to return to their own country for the purpose of recruiting and importing fresh labor. These men having no desire, it might be assumed, to deceive their friends and relatives, and knowing exactly the circumstances of the tea plantations, the privations and benefits thereof, were much better able to lay before the recruits the exact state of things than the recruiters employed by contractors, who had personally no acquaintance with the tea gardens. It was reasonable therefore to presume that a cooly recruited by a garden-sirdar would proceed to a tea district with a more clear understanding of what was before him than a cooly recruited under the other system. But there were certain drawbacks to the garden-sirdar system, and a chief difficulty existed in regard to the transport of emigrants. Where a contractor had received a certain number of coolies at his depôt and proposed to despatch them to the tea districts, they were forwarded under a system of rules through the officers residing at the ports of embarkation, such as Kooshtea and Goalundo. The coolies were embarked generally on board steamers where the supervision was complete, and where during the whole progress up the river they were more or less subject to the inspection and supervision of the local Magistrates. But where a garden-sirdar who was not allowed to recruit more than twenty laborers, desired to carry his men to the tea districts, he sometimes found considerable difficulty in providing the means of transit. To carry them to Assam in country boats was exceedingly difficult and expensive, and to do so by land was impossible. The garden-sirdar therefore generally desired to put them on board the steamers plying on the river, and willingly paid for their passage. If such laborers held a certificate of registration, the local officers could not prohibit their embarkation, although they knew nothing of the state of their health. Now, during the progress of such a party of emigrants to the port of embarkation, the cholera might have been amongst them, and they might carry the seeds of it on board; and it was not therefore a matter of surprise to find that the cholera which had decimated the emigrants on board a steamer proceeding to Assam, had been traced to the garden-sirdar's coolies, who were allowed to embark at the last moment without a bill of health, and of whom the local officers had no previous knowledge. It was proposed, therefore, to invest such local officers with the discretion to detain such parties of emigrants until they had been able to satisfy themselves that their embarkation on board a vessel conveying other emigrants would not endanger the safety of others, and to avoid, so far as any precautionary rules could avoid, such frightful results as were to be found on record.

It was also proposed to provide that Government should have power to require contractors to establish and maintain hospital depôts at Calcutta and at the ports of embarkation, whenever such a measure might seem requisite, so that if the cholera or other infectious disease were to break out amongst coolies awaiting transport, the sick might be removed to such places for proper treatment, and segregated from the others.

Another point to which Mr. Beaufort wished to refer was this. By section 10 of the Bill it was proposed to give the Lieutenant-Governor the power of declaring that emigration to a particular district should entirely cease for a certain period. If at any time disease were prevalent in a tea district or in a district where recruiters were at work, or if experience should show that emigration to a district at one particular season of the year induced serious disease, it might be expedient to prohibit emigration for a certain period. The power to do so was specifically declared by section 10.

Another point to which he would allude was that contained in Chapter XIII of the present Bill, namely, the power to close an unhealthy garden. Under certain sections in the present Act, when much sickness had occurred in a garden, power was given to the local officer to convene a committee, who were to proceed to the spot and inquire whether such garden was fit for human habitation. But difficulties had occurred in the working of those sections. The committee had sometimes found that, although they were unable

to account for the great mortality, they were not in a position to certify, in the terms of the Act, that the garden was not fit for human habitation; and therefore the object of the law had failed. There had also been some difficulty found in convening committees. The sections of the Bill introduced in Chapter XIII were intended to provide, first, for enabling the committee to be convened with more ease; and, secondly, to give to the Government power to declare that where the mortality had arisen above a certain percentage during the past three years, the garden should be closed. That would prevent any failure in the obvious object of the present Act, of which object the Council would, he was confident, approve.

Then, as regards laborers who had worked out their time, that was to say, the term of whose contract had expired. Under the present law the position of time-expired laborers was somewhat indefinite. It was proposed to declare that the moment a man had served out his time, he was to be wholly relieved from all the provisions of this law. Under the present law, although the term of contract had expired, if a laborer remained with his employer, he was still subject, as was his employer, to various provisions of the law. Considerable difficulties and great discontent had arisen from this state of the law. The subject was discussed at much length when Act II of 1870 was before the Council, but it seemed unnecessary to revert to that discussion on the present occasion. The Bill provided that when the term of contract had expired, the laborer and employer should be entirely relieved from the obligations which under the law the contract imposed, but at the same time it gave to the laborer full liberty to re-engage himself if he so pleased. He might make a new contract; and MR. BEAUFORT understood that a large proportion of laborers who worked out their time did not wish to return home, and did enter into fresh engagements with their employers or in other gardens. It was therefore declared that fresh contracts might be made without restriction; but at the same time it was provided that where the contract extended to a period of six months, such contract should be registered, and that in such case both parties to the contract should be subject to certain provisions of the law, namely, those relating to the regulation of labor, to house accommodation, food, medical attendance, and so forth. It was obviously right that these men, who were scarcely able to protect themselves, should have the opportunity of placing themselves under such rules if they pleased. But if they wished to be free laborers they would only have to reduce the period of contract within six months, and then they would be wholly untrammelled by any of those provisions of the law. In connection with this part of the Bill it was proposed to make what was in reality a new law for regulatng contracts of service and labor. In Part IV provision was made for the summary trial of complaints by employers for neglect of work, and of complaints by laborers for arrears of wages. That Part would apply only to those contracts to which the previous Parts of the Bill were not applicable. At present Act XIII of 1859 had been extended to the contracts of service made in the tea districts. But Mr. Beaufort thought it was admitted that the application of that Act to such cases was scarcely in accordance with the spirit and intention of the law. It was moreover a one-sided law, and did not sufficiently provide for these cases. Therefore it was proposed to give the Magistrate a summary power of hearing the complaints of both parties and of summarily adjudicating upon them.

He had omitted to say that in arranging the Bill he had introduced a somewhat new nomenclature. It was proposed that the chief officer employed in the superintendence of emigration should be called the Superintendent of Emigration, and that he should have as his subordinates certain medical inspectors and certain embarkation agents at the ports of embarkation. That referred to those parts of the law relating to recruitment and transport, and did not affect the provisions regarding the inspection and protection of laborers on the spot, which had not been altered.

The only other matter to which he need refer now, was contained in those sections of the Bill which provided for the extension of the law. Part IV of the Bill, to which he had just alluded, and which contained rules for the summary trial of questions arising between master and servant, might have a more general application,

and it was proposed to give the Government power to extend those provisions to any other districts. The Part had been framed with the view of providing a general law for regulating the relations between employer and employed, and might be found useful in other districts. But an extension of greater importance than that was to be found in Section 13, which enabled the Lieutenant-Governor to declare, by notification published in the Gazette, that the emigration of natives to any province in British India, and to any place in Bengal other than the tea districts, should be regulated by the provisions of this Act. The emigration of natives of India to the West Indies and foreign countries is regulated by Act VII of 1871 of the Imperial Legislature; but that Act does not apply to emigration to any portions of British India. Now, if it was desired to import laborers from India into British Burmah for instance, there was no law applicable. It was thought, however, that the recruiting of emigrants in Bengal should be regulated by one set of rules, whether such emigrants were intended for districts which were within the territory subject to the Government of Bengal, or for districts situated in some other province. Section 13 had been framed with this view. If the Council of the Governor-General would accept it as sufficient, then whenever it was desired to regulate emigration to British Burmah or other place, the Lieutenant-Governor would be enabled to declare that this law was applicable to such emigration, and it would be left to the Imperial Legislature to provide rules for the care and protection of coolies from the time when they left Bengal.

The provisions which Mr. Beaufort had touched upon were those which involved the most material alterations of the existing law, and he thought he might leave the consideration of all other matters for the present. He would now ask for leave to bring in the Bill.

His Honor the President said, he thought it might be well, in order that the Council might labor under no suspicion of not sufficiently directing public attention to the subject of one important change that we were making in the existing law, to say that it seemed to him the hon'ble member in telling us that all the changes were of a minor character, had perhaps not sufficiently placed before the Council the importance of the change proposed in regard to time-expired laborers. In His Honor's opinion that was a considerable change. The present law was this, that any imported laborer in these districts who had completed his period of service, if he should in any form contract again, should be subject to all the provisions of the law. Now, that provision of the law did not provide any form of contract in such cases. The consequence was that it had been considered, and His Honor believed rightly considered, that even a verbal contract was sufficient to bring a laborer under the provisions of the law. That being so, a verbal contract bringing the laborer under the provisions of the law, the result was that under the present Act most time-expired laborers were still under the law. But in practice it was found difficult to carry that out, and for this reason, that as there was no registration and no written contract, it was almost impossible for the district officers to say what laborers were under contract and what laborers were not under contract. They had told us that they were wholly in ignorance as to what proportion of time-expired laborers were under the law; that the returns of births and deaths were vitiated because they did not know how many men re-contracted and how many did not. When we came to consider this matter, it seemed to His Honor and his advisers that there was a considerable and wide distinction between coolies imported and coolies engaged on the spot without being imported. The Council were aware that a cooly imported under contract was imported at a considerable expense to the capitalist who imported him, and it had been considered, and probably wisely considered, that having regard to that expense, it was necessary the capitalist should be protected by special provisions in that behalf; that it should be made penal on the cooly to fail to fulfil his contract; and that speedy and summary remedies should be given for the enforcement of the employer's rights. On the other hand, the cooly was a simple and ignorant man, imported into a country of which he was entirely ignorant. He did not know one district of Assam from another. It might be

his fate to go to a good garden or to an unhealthy garden : it might be his fate to serve under a good master or under a master who was not good. Under these circumstances the law wisely laid down that the cooly, who was the object of special provisions in the interest of his employer, should also be protected by special provisions in his favor. But when we came to the question of the time-expired laborer who, knowing the country and knowing the nature of the work in which he was employed, chose to enter into a fresh engagement with his employer, the circumstances were materially different. In that case there had been no advance of capital which entitled the employer to the protection of those special provisions, and the cooly was not so ignorant as the cooly who came into the country knowing nothing about the garden to which he was going. Under these circumstances you had an employer who engaged men who were on the spot and who knew the circumstances under which they labored, and therefore those stringent provisions of the law were not necessary for their protection. On the other hand, these coolies being mixed up with the imported coolies under contract, and we thought it right and good for all parties that a summary law should be passed for the regulation of certain matters between them and their employers. We had taken care that the most stringent provisions of the law were not applied to these laborers or their employers, but certain provisions of a less stringent character were applied to both the employers and the employed.

The hon'ble member in charge of the Bill had told the Council that Act XIII of 1859, which was originally intended to apply to artisans in the presidency towns, had been extended to some of the labor districts. He had also said that doubts were entertained as to the applicability of this law, and we thought it right to substitute a somewhat summary law instead, under which the cooly who was not treated fairly, who was not paid his wages, should have a summary means of redress; and the employer who was not treated fairly, whose contract was broken, should also have summary redress. This question had given rise to considerable discussion. The Council, and the Committee to whom the Bill would be referred, would no doubt carefully scrutinize the provisions of the proposed Bill. His Honor's impression was that under the circumstances a summary remedy should be given; that the foreign cooly in Assam should be placed under some protection in regard to hospital accommodation and other matters; and that a summary provision for the recovery of wages should be given in a legitimate way, and not by the doubtful twisting of the provisions of Act XIII of 1859. That was one point on which a somewhat important change was proposed to be made in the existing law.

The hon'ble member had explained some other points in regard to which provisions not of a radical character were proposed. He had explained that it was proposed to alter somewhat the law of recruiting. That had been suggested by experience of an extremely practical character. Considerable discussion had arisen in regard to the emigration of laborers to the colonies. The law in regard to emigration to the colonies and to the tea districts was with respect to recruiters on the same footing. One was taken from the other. In regard to emigration to the colonies, licenses were given to recruiters at the instance of the emigration agents in Calcutta. His Honor had no hesitation in saying that that power had been used in a very mistaken manner. It was the custom to give licenses to recruiters of whom they knew absolutely nothing. The sub-agents sent down the names of the recruiters, and the agents got them licenses. The consequence was that considerable abuses had resulted, and the Government and Magistrates of the North-Western Provinces in particular brought to notice several scandals which had resulted from the abuse of those powers.

His Honor thought it his duty, as administering the executive government of these provinces, to alter that state of things, and to insist that the Protector of Emigrants should ascertain from the Magistrates of the districts in which the recruiters carried on their recruiting that the men whom they were asked to license were of respectable character. Considerable agitation was caused by the action which he had found it necessary to take, and we had received somewhat violent protests from the colonies on the subject, and the matter was

thoroughly sifted and discussed. The result was that it was considered essentially necessary that it should rest, not with the distant emigration agents, but with the Magistrate of the district, to decide whether the men proposed to be licensed as recruiters were or were not respectable men to whom this function of recruiter might safely be entrusted.

There was another point of considerable importance which had been alluded to by the hon'ble member. He had told the Council that the law with regard to dealing with unhealthy gardens had not been found adequate for the purpose. His Honor confirmed that statement. The existing law laid down that in case any garden was found unfit for human habitation, a committee should be convened on which there should be at least one employer of laborers, and the Government should be represented by the magistrate, the inspector of laborers, or the medical officer of the district. It might often happen that an ignorant cooly might be taken to such a garden where the chances of living were against him. On the other hand, it was sometimes difficult for the committee to say, however honestly inclined, that an unhealthy garden was unfit for human habitation. There were persons who could live in the most unhealthy and malarious places. It might be that the garden was not absolutely unfit for human habitation, and yet it might be a cruel wrong to force the laborers to remain and labor in it when the mortality might be 8, 10, or 12 per cent. Therefore we thought it necessary to define the circumstances under which the garden should be pronounced so unhealthy as to justify the interference of Government in behalf of the laborers. We had taken a standard which had met the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies in regard to some of the colonies in which this question had arisen. When for a series of years the mortality in any garden had exceeded 7 per cent., it should be considered to be a place in which the contracts of laborers should not be enforced. The hon'ble member had used the term "closed;" that was a term which might be the subject of some misconstruction. What was meant was that the garden should be closed to imported laborers. If the proprietor of the garden could induce coolies on the spot—natives of the country, who could resist the climate—to engage for labor in that garden, he would be perfectly free to carry on the garden. It was in such places that a large number of indigenous laborers would be valuable to the tea-planter in consequence of the close of the garden to imported laborers, but the proprietor must pay such prices for his labor as would induce indigenous laborers to work. We proposed a standard of 7 per cent., and declared that mortality in excess of that proportion should be taken as the guide to determine whether or not a garden was unhealthy.

His Honor need not allude to any minor points at this stage. In most other respects the Bill was, as the hon'ble member expressed it, an old friend with a new face. We would not proceed with the Bill in a hasty manner. We would give the Council and the public due time for its consideration. He proposed that the Bill, if leave were given for its introduction, should be published in the Gazette, and proceeded with in due course from stage to stage. He had no doubt that hon'ble members who were interested in the subject would give the Council their advice, and that we should ultimately arrive at a satisfactory conclusion.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill ordered to be published in the Gazette.

EMBANKMENTS AND WATER-COURSES.

The Hon'ble Mr. Schalch moved that the report of the Select Committee appointed to consider certain amendments in the Bill to amend the law relating to embankments and water-courses, be further considered in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill. In doing so, he said he might observe that at the last meeting of the Council the report of the Select Committee was brought under consideration, and the Council had so far proceeded as to consider an amendment proposed by the hon'ble member opposite (Baboo Degumber Mitter) in regard to Section 6, with the understanding that the remaining amendments proposed by the hon'ble member should be first considered, inasmuch as he

was of opinion that if they were carried they would involve such an important alteration in the Bill as to render it necessary that the Bill should be recast.

The motion was agreed to.

The adjourned debate on Baboo Degumber Mitter's motion in Section 6 was then resumed.

THE HON'BLE BABOO DEGUMBER MITTER said,—"With your Honor's permission I would address a few words in reply to what has been advanced by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill against the amendment I moved at the last sitting of the Council. The hon'ble member commenced by observing that I had not confined myself to the amendment I proposed with respect to Section 6, but had taken that opportunity of commenting upon several other sections of the Bill. True enough, but the hon'ble member did not undertake to state that the sections I commented upon had no connection with the clause I objected to; nor do I think he would deny that those sections were the necessary corollaries of the clause in question, and would have had no place in the Bill but for that clause. How could I, under the circumstances, help alluding to provisions in the Bill which, in an attempt to mitigate the injustice involved in the clause objected to in one direction, committed a grosser one in another, and where again such injustice was least merited; and that is precisely what the apportionment clauses of the Bill are calculated to effect. If, again, I have made allusion to an Act of this Council passed in 1866 and the Hooghly and Burdwan Drainage Act, it was also in connection with the same provisions of the Bill. The hon'ble member next said that the clause I had objected to was not an innovation on prior enactments, but was simply a re-enactment of clause 3 of Section 4 of Act XXXII of 1855. With every deference to the hon'ble member, I must say that the wording of the clause in question, considered in connection with the other parts of the section, will hardly bear that construction. The clause provides that the Superintendent of Embankments 'may also, when necessary, change the line of any *public embankment*, or make a new embankment.' I am perfectly aware that any embankment taken charge of and maintained by the officers of Government would constitute a public embankment under the definition given in the Act. But as Section 4 lays down for the first time under what circumstances private embankments are to be taken charge of by the officers of Government, the distinctive character of the two classes of embankments is necessarily preserved and expressed in this section by the words *private* and *public* embankments. For instance, Clause 2 of the section provides that the Superintendent of Embankments 'may cause any private embankment which endangers the stability of a public embankment,' &c., &c. I therefore respectfully contend that the words 'public embankment' used in Clause 3 is meant to be an embankment maintained at the expense of the State, and the words 'new embankment' immediately following it, is a new *public embankment*, and not *private embankment*. If there should still be any doubt in the matter, it is cleared up by Section 6 of the Act, in which provision is made as to the party from whom the cost of private embankments taken charge of by the State is to be recovered.

"The section runs thus:—

"VI. Whenever the Superintendent of Embankments shall hereafter cause an embankment, which any person is bound to keep up, to be taken charge of by the officers of Government, the expense of keeping up such embankment shall be charged to such person, provided that the amount so charged shall not exceed the reasonable expense of keeping up any embankment of the size and description which such person was bound to keep up, notwithstanding the embankment shall have been enlarged or improved by the officers of Government.'

"Now, in this section no provision is made for the recovery of the cost of a new embankment, which must have been done if the 'new embankment' mentioned in Clause 3 was meant to be one which was to be maintained at the cost of the zemindar. But while Section 6 was quite silent upon the subject of the new embankment mentioned in Clause 3, Section 7 provides for the payment of compensation by the State for injury sustained in the exercise of any of the powers vested in the Superintendent of Embankments by Clauses 3

and 4 of Section 4, which I need not say would hardly be compatible with the supposition that the works mentioned in Clause 3 were those which were contemplated to be done at the cost of the zemindar. I therefore cannot but conclude that Clause 3, Section 4, Act XXXII of 1855, provides for works which are to be maintained at the cost of the State and not of the zemindar, as is contended by the hon'ble member; and consequently the clause objected to by me is not a re-enactment of Clause 3, Section 4, Act XXXII of 1855. Passing over that portion of the hon'ble member's speech wherein he warmly expatiates on the different checks he has provided against an abuse of the power vested in the Engineer by the clause in question, I would proceed on to that part of the hon'ble member's speech wherein an attempt is made to show the necessity for the clause in question. He first mentions the fact of a bund or dam thrown up by a zemindar of the 24-Pergunnahs across a water channel, which benefited him, but injured others by causing their lands to be inundated. I really do not see what connection this has with the clause objected to. The act of the zemindar complained of was calculated to obstruct the drainage of the country, and hence summary power was intended to be given to the Engineer for the removal of such obstructions. The Bill makes ample provision for the same, and nobody objects to it. But the object of the clause in question is something totally different. It provides for the making of any embankment, wherever the Engineer liked, at the cost of the zemindar, which, so far as the drainage is concerned, it must to a certain extent obstruct rather than facilitate, even if provided with sluices. I do not therefore see what the hon'ble member has gained by citing the case of the 24-Pergunnahs zemindar. The hon'ble member then says that the zemindar may be opposed in making an embankment to run through the property of his putneedar, durputneedar, &c., and hence the necessity of Government interference in the matter. But I do not see the necessity of a zemindar's passing an embankment at all through the property he has given away in putnee. The putneedar is to make the embankment, and not the zemindar. In case the zemindar should have given away a solitary mouzah in putnee out of many, and if it so happened that for the protection of the whole property the embankment must run through the putnee mouzah, power in such cases is always reserved, when the putnee arrangement is made, for the construction of such embankment by the zemindar, and the putneedar is made to contribute a portion of the expense. But while the hon'ble member has indulged in supposititious cases, which however do not at all make out the necessity, he does not state a single instance of any representation having been ever made by a zemindar to that effect, nor is there anything before the Council proving the actual necessity for such a provision; and unless the necessity is clearly made out, this Council will not be justified in enacting a law which interferes with private rights, and is opposed to the decision come to by the Government of 1837."

THE HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH said, he did not know how far he was prevented by the Rules of the Council from offering a few explanations rendered necessary by the remarks which had fallen from the hon'ble member opposite (Baboo Degumber Mitter). He believed that the strict rule as to each member speaking only once in a debate did not apply to amendments moved during the settlement of the clauses of a Bill.

[HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT observed that it was desirable that the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill should have an opportunity of making any explanation he considered necessary.]

THE HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH said, the hon'ble member's amendment brought up two questions for disposal. One was the power of the Engineer to make a new embankment, and the other was as to the person who should pay the cost of such work. The question of cost did not fall within the purview of this section, but came within a subsequent section which referred to the mode in which payments of all costs incurred were to be recovered, and he thought it would be better, if the hon'ble member objected to the cost of these works being thrown upon the zemindar, that he should move an amendment to that effect in that

section. MR. SCHALCH would now confine his remarks strictly to the power of the Engineer to make an embankment. Referring to the existing law, he thought nothing could be clearer than the power of the Engineer to make a new embankment under certain conditions as to publication, and so on. It was distinctly declared that the Engineer could make new embankments. As to how the costs incurred in so doing, and the compensation to be awarded, should be assessed, was a different question. If the Engineer had before the power of making new embankments, that power should be maintained. And even if the zemindar was desirous of making a new embankment, it was necessary that the opinion of a professional person should be taken, to see that the embankment was so made as not to injuriously affect the interests of third parties. That power was given by the present law, and should be retained under the new law. MR. SCHALCH would not at present refer to the question of the apportionment of costs. That question could be better discussed when the Council came to a subsequent amendment of the hon'ble member in regard to throwing on the Government the burden of maintaining at their own expense all embankments now maintained by them without regard to the question how far they were obliged to maintain them, and how far reasons of State might induce them to maintain embankments which they were under no obligation to maintain, or how far they should maintain them merely because those who should do so would not maintain them. However, MR. SCHALCH thought it was necessary that we should have a professional officer to determine that question. The hon'ble member had mistaken the reference made to the case which gave rise in some measure to the Bill now under consideration. MR. SCHALCH meant to refer to that case merely as an example of the necessity which existed that a third party should be entitled to interfere, in justice to other parties whom the work about to be constructed might be calculated to injure. The hon'ble member had also said in the rest of his observations that although the zemindar, by the process of infeudation, might not often be able to make an embankment which should run through the land of his putneedar, yet that when an estate was given in putnee the liability to maintain embankments devolved on the putneedar. That was always the first argument which a zemindar brought forward to evade his responsibilities. The hon'ble member seemed to think that it was quite within the competency of the zemindar to transfer his liabilities to a third party by contracting with such person to perform the services which the zemindar was bound to the Government to perform. So it might be as between the zemindar and a third party. But it was quite a different thing as to how far the zemindar was authorized to throw over the liabilities which the Government had thrown upon him. The Government looked to the zemindar, and he could not say—"I have thrown the liability on this man, who might perhaps be a man of straw. I reap the benefit, but I don't wish to burden myself with the liability. I have nothing more to do with it." It was a common practice to condition with the putneedar that he should pay the Government revenue, but MR. SCHALCH had never seen the argument carried to the length of saying that the zemindar who let his estate in putnee on such a condition, had thereby freed himself from his liability for the payment of Government revenue. The zemindars seemed to acknowledge that the liability for the payment of revenue did rest with them, and could not be transferred to a third party. In the same manner, although the zemindar might contract with a third party for the maintenance of embankments, he must still remain the responsible person, and he might fairly plead that although the responsibility rested with him, the parties with whom he had contracted would not let him fulfil his obligations. The real question at issue was as to the liability of the zemindar to maintain embankments; but that question would be discussed more appropriately in connection with a subsequent amendment of which the hon'ble member had given notice. Unless the Council were prepared to say that in no case were new embankments necessary, they must be prepared to admit that if new embankments were necessary, a professional person must, under the safeguards provided by the Bill, which obliged the Collector to see justice done to all parties, have authority to determine what works were necessary.

His Honor the President said, as he understood the amendment it amounted to this, that the hon'ble member would take altogether out of the Bill all power to make new embankments. He would restrict the provisions of the Bill to existing embankments and take away all power to make a new embankment. After having heard what had fallen from the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, His Honor was quite convinced that the present law did give the public officers power to make new embankments. Therefore, the effect of the amendment would be retrograding, and would take away from the public officers the power which they now had. What he understood had rendered a revision of the law necessary was, that while under the existing law the power to make a new embankment did exist, no definite provisions were laid down as to the parties by whom the cost of such works should be borne: the present law was not sufficiently definite to enforce that obligation, and did not make sufficient provision for an equitable apportionment of the cost among the various parties interested in the construction of the work. If the amendment were accepted by the Council, the result would be that whenever by a change in the course of rivers or streams a new embankment was rendered necessary, we should be quite powerless to provide for the saftey of the country. It was well known that great and frequent changes took place in the features of the country; that the course of rivers changed, and the features of the country changed with the course of great rivers. Embankments which were sufficient for the protection of the country one day were wholly useless another day, and the country could only be protected by new embankments. It would be most dangerous and might be most destructive to the country that this power should be taken away from the officers of Government. If this power were to be taken away, if the hands of the Government were to be so much tied down in the future, the Bill might be called a Bill to relieve the zemindars from their existing obligations, and to enable them to cast on their sub-tenants obligations which did not now attach to such sub-tenants. It was not desirable that this Bill should be passed with a one-sided character. His Honor thought it necessary that this power should rest in the hands of the officers of Government, and should be regulated by such limitations as the Council thought fit. The hon'ble member had alluded to the summary character of the apportionment clauses, but that question would be properly dealt with when we came to the consideration of that portion of the Bill. The present amendment being of a sweeping character, having for its object wholly to take away the power to make a new embankment, His Honor submitted that it was inexpedient to adopt it, and he trusted that the Council would not accept it.

The motion was then negatived.

The Hon'ble Baboo Degumber Mitter said,—"In stating my grounds for the next amendment on the paper I cannot avoid entering into a short review of the various changes which the Bill, as originally introduced, had undergone before it assumed its present form. The Bill as it was originally introduced, contemplated mainly, as I understand it, to vest the Engineer with summary powers for the removal of obstruction to the drainage of the country, and as it closely followed in its leading principles the prior enactments on the subject, especially Act XXXII of 1855, I saw no objection to support it at its first reading. In committee, however, its leading principles were entirely changed, even to the extent of totally absolving Government from the obligation of maintaining any embankment at the cost of the State. The Select Committee made their report in August 1871, and the Bill as amended by them was published in the *Calcutta Gazette*. It was then that petitions poured in from different quarters, and amongst others the British Indian Association sent up their protest on the subject. The first notice taken in the Council of the labours of the Select Committee was in the speech of our President, delivered on the 9th December 1871, in opening the session for 1871 and 1872, and it was done in these memorable words:—

"'A suggestion had been made that the Government was anxious, by means of the Bill, to rid itself of obligations which it undertook in the last century, at the time of the decennial settlement. Speaking for himself, he might say that the Government had no

such wish; his impression was, as the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill would probably tell the Council, that any obligations distinctly undertaken by the Government as part of the basis of the decennial settlement, which afterwards became the permanent settlement, should be maintained intact, and the Government should not attempt to rid itself of those obligations. That was a point which would be fairly and impartially considered, and fairly and impartially laid before the Council.'

"In the sitting of the Council held on the 9th of March 1872, the Bill, after an able and exhaustive speech from the hon'ble member opposite, Mr. Bernard, was referred back to a Select Committee with instructions, I may with correctness say, so to amend the Bill as would maintain intact the obligations undertaken by Government in the matter of embankments. In what manner those instructions have been carried out, and how far the assurances of your Honor have been given effect to, would appear from Section 41. In that section mention is made of a schedule which is said to contain a specification of all the lines of embankment which after the passing of this Bill will be maintained at the expense of Government, and none that did not find a place there will be so maintained. How this important document was prepared, and whether it contains all the embankments which the State has undertaken to mantain at its own cost, and whether it does not contain others which the State is not at all liable to maintain, are questions which, though a member of the Select Committee to whom the Bill had been referred for settlement and report, I am yet totally unable to answer, and I may with confidence say the same for the other members, not even excepting the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill himself. For though the Bill with the schedule annexed comes before the Council with the sanction of his name, yet I doubt very much that he would venture to assure the Council that the schedule embraces nothing more or less than what it should embrace. One thing, however, is quite certain, that whereas Government now maintains at its own cost 1,329 miles of embankment, it would have to maintain only 864 miles if the Bill submitted by the Select Committee passed into law with the Schedule (E) preserved in all its integrity. I find the first figure from the notes of the hon'ble member opposite (Mr. Bernard), and the second by adding up the measurement given of the different lines of embankment in the Schedule (E). Now, Sir, the letter of the Sudder Board of Revenue, which I have so often cited, shows that the question of what lines of embankment Government had undertaken, and should on that account be maintained at the cost of the State, was fully gone into in the year 1837. The different points of enquiry necessary to arriving at a correct solution of the question had been carefully laid down, and a decision was come to after a most searching and thorough investigation of the subject in all its bearings, and we find that that decision has ever since become the basis of all Government action, executive or legislative, on the subject of embankments. It is to be presumed, therefore, unless in any one instance it is judicially proved to be otherwise, that the mileage of embankment (1,329) now being maintained at the expense of Government represents, as far as such works can represent, the total of the different lines of embankment which the Government of 1837, after a sifting enquiry, pronounced to be those which should be so maintained; and yet in the preparation of the schedule in question the Government decision appears to have been treated as if it was not worth the paper on which it was recorded. For instance, I do not find the embankments protecting the city of Moorshedabad on either side of the Bhaugeruthee, included in the schedule, though the question whether those embaukments should be maintained at the expense of the State or that of the zemindars had been specially raised, and decided by the Sudder Board of Revenue that they should be maintained at the cost of Government, and for reasons which it is not very easy to controvert, as I have already had occasion to show whilst stating my grounds for the first amendment. But while the Moorshedabad embankments are thus summarily and unceremoniously excluded from the schedule, other lines are included in it whose presence there is quite irreconcileable with any possible principle which the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill might have adopted for excluding from, or including in, the schedule, embankments which should be maintained at the cost of the State. As the

schedule, therefore, cannot be depended upon as containing all the embankments which ought to be maintained at the expense of the State, I object to its being received by this Council and formed the basis for legislation on the subject; and relying, in view of the assurance already given, that it cannot be the wish of your Honor to depart from the liability already incurred by Government to maintain certain embankments at the expense of the State, and as the embankments in respect of which such liability had been incurred was, after much enquiry and careful consideration, determined by the Government of 1837, I beg to move that section 41 of the Bill be omitted and the following substituted in lieu thereof:—

"'The provisions in this Part contained shall not apply to any embankment which at the time of the passing of this Act is maintained at the expense of the State, nor to any embankment which may hereafter be erected for the protection of any land which is, at the time of the passing of this Act, protected by any embankment maintained at the expense of the State.'"

THE HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH said there were two very serious objections to the adoption of the amendment moved by the hon'ble member. But before proceeding to state those objections, he would refer to what had been said by the hon'ble member. MR. SCHALCH must say that he did not hear the hon'ble member's speech so distinctly on the last occasion as he should have done, and it was not until he saw the speech reported that he discovered that his remarks had more reference to the question then under consideration than MR. SCHALCH had at the time supposed. He hoped, therefore, that if in anything he mistook the hon'ble member's meaning on the present occasion, he would be kind enough to correct him. The hon'ble member's first objection was that since its introduction the Bill had imported a very different principle, and that the Bill as introduced did not cast upon the zemindar so distinctly as the Bill now did, the cost of constructing new embankments. If that was the intention of his remarks, MR. SCHALCH found, on reference to the former Bill, the following clause:—

"The cost of the construction, maintenance, and repairs of all works executed under the powers and provisions of this Act or any of them shall be borne by the owners of the lands benefited thereby, and shall be recovered from them as if the same were arrears of Government revenue."

If the hon'ble member objected to that as a change made in the Bill subsequent to its introduction, it appeared to MR. SCHALCH that there really was no change. In introducing the Bill on 17th December 1870, he said that the object of the Bill was, first, to give power in cases of emergency to interfere at once in order to prevent inundations; secondly, to make more definite the definition of the word "embankment," and to include within it many works which, although not, strictly speaking, embankments, were intimately connected with them, and the maintenance of which was essential for the efficient condition of embankments; and, lastly, another and one of the most important objects sought to be attained was the better apportionment of the expense of the construction and maintenance of embankments, which the proprietors of estates in the vicinity of such embankments were bound to provide. So that it would be seen that the Bill originally, and the remarks introducing it, did provide for a change in the system, namely, that the parties who bore the expense in future should be the parties who derived benefit or protection from the works. When that Bill was submitted to a Select Committee, they struck out the provision which existed in it, and which was taken from the old Act, keeping up the existing obligation of the zemindars. They threw out that provision, and submitted the Bill in this form, that the entire liability rested not so much on the previous specific engagements, but in proportion to the benefit and the protection received from embankments. When that report was submitted to the Council, it was observed by the British Indian Association, in a very important and temperate petition, that the Government could, under cover of the Bill, relieve itself from all the obligations it had undertaken to maintain embankments. But the Government had no desire to evade their obligations.

His Honor the President said on that occasion that there was no wish that the Government should avail itself of any such power. He said:—

"A suggestion had been made that the Government was anxious, by means of this Bill, to rid itself of obligations which it undertook in the last century, at the time of the decennial settlement. Speaking for himself, he might say that the Government had no such wish; his impression was, as the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill would probably tell the Council, that any obligations distinctly undertaken by the Government as part of the basis of the decennial settlement, which afterwards became the permanent settlement, should be maintained intact, and that the Government should not attempt to rid itself of those obligations. That was a point which would be fairly and impartially considered and fairly and impartially laid before the Council."

On that occasion the Bill was re-committed chiefly for the purpose of ascertaining what embankments the Government were bound to maintain, and for other minor reasons. That proposal came before the Committee, and it became MR. SCHALCH's duty to prepare a schedule of the embankments which the Government were bound to maintain. The schedule was prepared by him after much consultation with the executive officers as to what embankments were then maintained, and after wading through a mass of papers as to what were the obligations of Government in regard to those embankments, the schedule appended to the Bill was prepared. The hon'ble member said he did not know how the schedule was prepared. He thought he might say how it was prepared and how those particular embankments were entered in the schedule, and other hon'ble members of the Committee would probably confirm his statement. The schedule was prepared and circulated to all the members of the Committee. The Committee would not examine the various items in the schedule (the HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH was prepared fully to explain them), but accepted the schedule with the understanding that it would be discussed in Council. That was the way the schedule was prepared and became a portion of the Bill. With regard to the principle on which it was prepared, he would beg to say a few words. In the speech of His Honor the President he recognized merely those obligations which were distinctly undertaken by the Government at the time of the decennial settlement. Looking through all the papers connected with the permanent settlement, MR. SCHALCH could find nowhere that the Government had distinctly undertaken to maintain any embankments. In almost every district the zemindars, however, had entered into certain obligations in which they distinctly stated that they would maintain embankments within the boundaries of their estates. The kubooleuts ran in this form—

"I will keep up embankments regularly in my estate according to custom. Should I fail to do so, whatever loss may follow is mine only."

MR. SCHALCH would not yet go into the question of the liability of the zemindar. The liability was contained in this engagement of the zemindar, and he could find nowhere any engagement made by the Government to maintain embankments. But on looking into some other papers, he found that there were, subsequent to the decennial settlement, engagements by which the Government was bound to maintain certain embankments. For instance, the embankments included within the estates of the Rajah of Burdwan. At the time of the settlement the Rajah of Burdwan received a remission of revenue of Rs. 60,000 for the purpose of maintaining embankments throughout his estates, but by some process or other the embankments were not maintained, although the Rs. 60,000 was remitted for the purpose. But in 1822 the Government did enter into a distinct arrangement with the Rajah that in future, provided he paid that Rs. 60,000 as Government revenue, the Government would maintain the embankments within his estate. MR. SCHALCH considered that a clear and specific engagement, and he therefore introduced into the schedule all the embankments now maintained by the Government in the old Burdwan estate. The Council would find those embankments specified in the schedule in the items numbered from No. 1 to No. 28. That was the only specific engagement to maintain embankments which he found the Government had ever made. There were another set of embankments which was not noticed in the Board's report. That was in regard to the embankments in Hidgelee. They formed

the subject of a careful enquiry by Sir Henry Ricketts when a member of the Board of Revenue. He reported that these embankments consisted of seven different kinds of embankments which he specified.

The matter was carefully considered by the Government, and they finally accepted the obligation of maintaining the sea bund mentioned in the schedule as No. 36, extending over a length of 41 miles. They further accepted the obligation of maintaining the outer embankment along the river Hooghly and up to the creek to a certain distance. And they accepted the duty of cutting and keeping open these bunds at the breaches of those embankments. But the expense of maintaining all other embankments in Hidgelee was to be borne by the zemindars. From that date the only embankments borne on the books of the Government and maintained by Government were those that they then undertook to maintain, and they have been included in Nos. 39 to 54, both inclusive. There remained only three other lines of embankment. Two of these were what was called station embankments, one protecting the station of Rampore Beauleah, and the other Maldah.

His Honor the President observed that the hon'ble member was rather entering into an explanation of the items in the schedule, which would be better considered at a later stage of the proceedings.

The Hon'ble Mr. Schalch resumed.—He would not now proceed with any further explanation of the schedule; but the Council would see from what he had already said, that the schedule was framed in entire accordance with the opinion expressed by the Board of Revenue in their letter, where they said they considered that embankments needed for the protection of cities should be maintained by Government, and the three classes of embankments which he had mentioned were the only embankments which were entered in the schedule, because they were the only ones which the Government, in accordance with that opinion, was obliged to maintain.

The hon'ble mover of the amendment had observed that this subject was fully considered in the Board's letter of 1837, and that the determination then arrived at should not be set aside except by a judicial decision. But if the hon'ble member referred to the Board's letter, he would find that it did not support him so far as he would wish. In the first place, one of the very important embankments then maintained was the embankment which protected the 24-Pergunnahs. The circumstances relating to that embankment were very complicated, and Mr. Schalch would therefore prefer not to discuss them until the Council came to consider the schedule. He would merely observe that the final result to which the Board arrived was set out in the 51st paragraph of the Board's letter, which showed that the Government was so far obliged to maintain those embankments, that if they did not keep them up they should be obliged to refund the sum of Rs. 16,786 which the zemindars originally paid to Government when they gave up the maintenance of those embankments. Then he might also observe that the hon'ble member had stated that the Moorshedabad embankments had been omitted from the schedule. Those embankments had been omitted because the Government was not bound to maintain them; and so far as the decision of the Board of Revenue would show, it was stated by the Commissioner of Moorshedabad that "he had been unable to discover any document binding the State to this expenditure with regard to bunds in estates the property of zemindars."

But Mr. Schalch would not further go into the question of the schedule at present.

Mr. Schalch thought he had now answered the question, which the hon'ble member suggested, why certain embankments had been included in the schedule and why certain other embankments had been left out. The reason was that in the one case the Government was bound to maintain them, and in the other they were not so bound.

With these preliminary remarks he came to the two serious objections which he had to the amendment before the Council—first, that it would throw upon the Government the charge of keeping up embankments without any

determination as to how that charge was undertaken. He found after a very careful review that the embankments which the Government was now maintaining might be divided into three classes—first, embankments which the Government had undertaken to maintain, and which were entered in the schedule; secondly, those which the zemindar was bound to maintain, and which from their importance were of such a nature that their non-maintenance would entail very serious loss to the people; and, lastly, those which the zemindar was also bound to maintain, and which on occasions of emergency the Government had taken up; and once having taken them in hand they found it difficult to get rid of them, because their abandonment might be injurious to the people. He would mention one instance of the latter class in Nuddea. In consequence of the heavy inundation in 1867 much loss was caused. The Collector found that the embankments had not been repaired, and he suggested that an enquiry should be instituted: he fully allowed that the zemindars were bound to repair the embankments, but as the zemindars would not maintain them he suggested that the Government should repair them. The executive officer found that small bunds had been thrown up by the zemindars to protect their lands, but he insisted that it was necessary in the interests of the people to repair the embankments. The Government then undertook to repair the embankments, but with this distinct reservation, that they had acted merely on an emergency, and that their action should not be construed into a precedent or be held to throw any new claim upon the Government. MR. SCHALCH thought it would be very unfair to the tax-payers generally that the Government should be bound to do a duty which the zemindars were under obligations to perform: it would be unfair to the public to ask the Government to accept the whole of the costs of those embankments which they were not under obligations to maintain.

The second objection to the amendment was, that it would leave the responsibility of the Government under the Act in the same undecided state in which it was now, and which it was one of the objects of the Bill to remove. One of the objects of the Bill was that from the date of the passing of the Act each person would know what embankments he had to maintain; whether it should be determined that the zemindar or the Government should maintain a particular embankment, it should be distinctly laid down upon whom the responsibility lay. And that was done by reference to the schedule. MR. SCHALCH therefore objected to the omission of the schedule in that sweeping manner by which the hon'ble member proposed to throw on the Government the liability to maintain embankments. If the amendment was not accepted by the Council, and if the provision declaring the necessity of the schedule was maintained, he should be most happy, in discussing the details of the schedule, to state the reasons for its adoption in its present form, and it would then be in the power of the Council to determine what embankments should, and what embankments should not, be entered in the schedule.

THE HON'BLE MR. COLVIN said that he had not intended to take part in any debate upon the clauses of the measure now under consideration, for the Bill was originally introduced before he had the honor of being a member of the Council, and had been subjected from time to time during its progress, before it assumed its present form, to various important changes and modifications, with the history and character of which he had hitherto been scarcely as familiar as he could wish. But the discussion on the amendment of the hon'ble member on his left with regard to section 41 had made him desirous of offering a few words upon the general principle which appeared to him to be involved therein, and of stating his reasons for wishing to support the section as it stood, though he did not purpose to enter into the details of the points at issue.

The hon'ble member (Baboo Degumber Mitter) had urged with considerable force that it was the duty of Government, in view of the terms of the permanent settlement, to continue to maintain at the public charge, all those embankments which had hitherto been, or were now being, kept up at the expense of the State; that the obligations of Government in that respect were of a lasting and binding character; and that, consequently, the embankments which were

enumerated in Schedule (E) annexed to the Bill, formed but an incomplete and inadequate list of those in respect to which responsibility attached to the State.

On the other hand, the Government argued that their present obligations, or what in practice had come to be considered as such, in respect to the maintenance of embankments, had grown and increased from time to time, under special needs and demands, to their present extent, and that they considerably exceeded the limits at which it was intended to fix them on the occasion when they were last settled, and that now it was high time to draw the line somewhere. This view appeared to receive much support from the official records of recent years which had been brought to bear on the case.

But be that as it may, it would, he thought, be admitted on allhands that both the hon'ble members who had charge of the Bill and the Select Committees to whom it had been more than once referred, had given every consideration to the representations which had been made to them during the progress of the measure, and in consequence of which several of the changes, to which he had already alluded, from its original provisions had been adopted, and hat in doing so they had gone far towards meeting the views urged in those representations, and had endeavoured as fairly and equitably as possible to assess the respective obligations of the Government and zemindars; he would therefore be very unwilling, for his part, lightly to disturb the conclusions which had been arrived at after so much deliberation. At any rate, it seemed essential that such obligations should be defined in the form of a schedule, though it might be a point for decision, when the schedule itself came up for discussion, whether any other embankments should be added to the list. He would venture to remind the Council that all legislation upon questions such as this, in which the issues involve the adjustment of charges between different parties, must necessarily partake in a greater or less degree of the principle of compromise, and he would prefer to accept the concessions which had already been made by Government in the direction of the special claims so ably represented by the hon'ble member on his left, in order to facilitate a permanent, or at any rate, it might be hoped, not less than a decennial, settlement of a long and much-vexed question upon a fairly if not wholly satisfactory basis.

Upon these grounds he wished to support the clause as it stood.

THE HON'BLE MR. WYMAN said, he thought the amendment went much further than the mover of it himself considered it really did, as he said that His Honor the President had not only pledged himself to maintain intact the obligations of the Government in respect to embankments, but to maintain all the existing embankments. What His Honor really did was not to pledge the Government to maintain the embankments which they were now maintaining, but that where it was shown that the Government was under obligations to maintain certain embankments, that obligation should be respected and maintained. But the amendment of the hon'ble member went much further than that. He started by asserting, practically, that every embankment now maintained by Government should be maintained for ever at the expense of Government. That was not what His Honor had promised, nor what the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill referred to in his introductory observations. He distinctly pointed out that there were certain liabilities which required adjustment. From the circumstance that the zemindars avoided their obligations, the Government had been led to take them up in the interests of the people; and because the Government had done that in view of the great and important public interests which were concerned, the hon'ble member said it should be declared that the Government should be held liable for the continued maintenance of those works. Neither His Honor the President nor the hon'ble mover of the Bill had departed from what was proposed to be done. The argument therefore really turned upon the question whether the schedule attached to the Bill did or did not contain the embankments which the Government were bound to keep up. If there was any obligation to keep up any embankment which was not entered in the schedule, MR. WYMAN had no doubt that the matter would be carefully considered;

but there manifestly must be an advantage in having a schedule containing a specific enumeration of all the embankments the Government were bound to maintain. It set the question at rest, and it showed the zemindar also what his obligations were. In page 10 of the Report of Proceedings of the last meeting, where an extract was made from the Board of Revenue's letter of 1837, great stress was laid by the hon'ble member on the ability of the zemindar to ignore his obligations. The words used were—"should I fail to maintain embankments, the loss will be mine only." MR. WYMAN submitted that the matter did not end there. It might involve loss to hundreds of persons, it might cause inundation to the country, and affect places far beyond the immediate locality of the embankment. And therefore the Government had thought it right to say to the zemindars—"Here is a public duty which you have not performed: we cannot saddle ourselves with the cost. We do the work to prevent a calamity; but you must pay for it." He thought that was fair and reasonable. The Government accepted their liability to maintain certain embankments, and made a compromise by saying—"We will accept this much, but we will not accept more. It is necessary that this thing should be done: we have done our part; and now you do yours." MR. WYMAN submitted that the arguments of the hon'ble member were hardly so convincing as he thought they were. It would never do to compel the Government to maintain what under peculiar circumstances they had done for the benefit of the people, but the obligation to do which really lay with the zemindar.

THE HON'BLE THE ACTING ADVOCATE-GENERAL said, it might perhaps be necessary for him to say a few words. The hon'ble member in charge of the Bill had sufficiently and properly shown to the Council that the Government was in no way disposed to avoid any responsibility or obligation undertaken by the Government under the terms of any contract. He thought that the hon'ble mover of the amendment had not ventured to suggest that the Government had avoided any obligation. But he had taken advantage of the circumstance that in consequence of neglect of duty on the part of zemindars, the Government had in fact, for some considerable time, kept up certain embankments, which they were under no obligation to keep up, for the protection of the inhabitants of particular districts, and he (the hon'ble mover) had founded the liability of Government to keep up all existing embankments upon the circumstance to which reference has been made. THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL thought the object of the Bill was to adjust the liability, in respect of maintaining embankments, between the zemindars and the Government. It appeared to him that the embankments which the Government had kept up, other than those which they were bound to maintain, were embankments which they might (if necessary) compel zemindars to maintain through the medium of Courts of Justice, by suits instituted to enforce the terms of the engagements entered into by zemindars. The present legislation embodied a simple means of obtaining redress in respect of grievances which the Government had for a considerable number of years borne at the hands of zemindars. The argument of the hon'ble member had taken the Advocate-General by surprise; for it amounted to this, that whenever a person, actuated by generous sentiments, voluntarily benefited others by certain specific acts, it should be held that he had undertaken the duty or incurred the liability to continue in future to perform similar acts for a similar purpose, and to release parties actually liable and bound to perform them. The whole argument of the hon'ble member seemed to be based upon the above suggested principle, and therefore carried with it no weight. THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL must give his vote in favor of this part of the Bill, and support the mover in this measure.

THE HON'BLE BABOO DEGUMBER MITTER said,—"I do not think that I am called upon to notice all the objections that have been raised against the amendment I have moved. The question principally raised by the amendment is, whether the schedule annexed to the Bill, purporting to contain a specification of all the embankments which should be maintained at the cost of the State, should be accepted by this Council and made the basis of legislation on the subject. I have shown by figures that cannot lie, that the mileage of embankment which is now being maintained at the cost of the State is 1,329, whereas

it should have only to maintain 864 miles if the Bill passed into law with the schedule preserved in all its integrity. The inference which that fact unavoidably leads one to is, that many embankments must have been excluded from the schedule which are at present maintained at the expense of the State. Some hon'ble members would meet this objection by restoring to the schedule such lines of embankment as might have been unjustly excluded from it. The question would still obtrude itself, whether this Council is competent to enter into this sort of judicial enquiry, especially in the absence of the parties who are interested in the matter, and who can alone offer information or adduce evidence on the subject."

His Honor the President said, he was inclined to think that the arguments which had been adduced against the amendment had induced the hon'ble mover of the amendment to recede from the position which he had taken up. He admitted that his arguments were opposed not to the general principle of the Bill which his amendment seemed to maintain, but to the particular schedule before the Council. He had occasion to point out that hon'ble members were somewhat premature in considering the details of the schedule. The time would come when the details would be properly and thoroughly discussed. It was evident that the schedule would have to be very carefully considered. Looking to the statement regarding that schedule which was given by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, looking to the circumstances under which the schedule was appended to the report of the Committee, it would probably be desirable that we should ask that Committee to be good enough to resume their labors so far as to re-consider the schedule. His Honor thought that the schedule having been attached to the Bill subject to future consideration, it might perhaps be referred back to the Committee to consider it a little more fully. Perhaps if he said more he should be attempting to slay the slain, for the hon'ble member's arguments had been sufficiently slain. But perhaps he might say that he heartily and entirely objected to the principle of the amendment, as it placed on the Government an obligation which did now lie on the Government; and he was extremely unwilling that the Government, representing not the Government as an entity, but the tax-payers of the country, should, in a matter of this kind affecting the permanently-settled estates of Bengal, for one moment think of consenting to assume obligations not legitimately falling upon them. The permanent settlement had conferred enormous benefit and revenues on the zemindars of Bengal. Those revenues were subject to certain obligations, and he most strongly held as proper and right to the tax-payers that we should hold the zemindars to the obligations which they undertook at the time of the permanent settlement, from which they derived such great benefit and revenues. Therefore, adhering as he did to the declaration that nothing was further from his intention than to recede from the obligations incurred by the Government at the time of the permanent settlement, he at the same time strongly objected to throw on the Government any additional obligation as between the Government and the zemindar, which the Government did not undertake at the time of the permanent settlement, and which neither equity nor the law of the case threw upon the Government. His Honor must in that view oppose the amendment. The hon'ble member had alluded to the Board's report of 1837. But the year 1837 was not the present time, it was also not the time of the permanent settlement. The papers of 1837 might justly and properly be referred to the Select Committee as throwing light upon the obligations of the Government at the time of the permanent settlement. He desired that the matter should be sifted in that way. But the question now for consideration was, were the embankments, or were they not, an obligation at the time of the permanent settlement, or an obligation which the Government at any time permanently undertook as between it and the zemindars. That being so, he submitted that the amendment which proposed to put the question on an entirely different footing should not be accepted.

The motion was then negatived.

On the motion of the Hon'ble Baboo Degumber Mitter, section 73 was omitted from the Bill.

The further consideration of the Bill was postponed.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 22nd instant.

DEATH OF SURGEON J. A. PUREFOY COLLES.

No. 805, dated Calcutta, the 25th February 1873.

From—A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, Judicial Dept.

To—The Inspector-General of Hospitals, Indian Medical Department.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1316 of the 20th February 1873, with enclosure, and in reply to say that the Lieutenant-Governor has noticed with very deep regret the death of Surgeon J. A. Purefoy Colles, M.D., Officiating Professor of Anatomy and ex-officio Second Surgeon of the Calcutta Medical College Hospital. The services of Dr. Colles were much appreciated by this Government, and His Honor fully concurs in the testimony borne by you to his worth and abilities.

No. 1316, dated Fort William, the 20th February 1873.

From—DR. CAMPBELL BROWN, Inspr.-Genl. of Hospitals, Indian Medical Dept.

To—The Offg. Secy. to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

IN forwarding the accompanying official report of the death of Surgeon J. A. Purefoy Colles, M.D., Officiating Professor of Anatomy in the Medical College, and Second Surgeon to the College Hospital, I have the honor to state that I entirely concur in the observations recorded by Drs. Saunders and Smith regarding the late Dr. Colles's character and merit. I first became acquainted with Surgeon Colles in the Field Hospital at Lucknow in 1858, and I then formed a very high opinion of him, which his after career has very fully confirmed. Government has lost the services of a most zealous and talented Medical Officer, and of a most conscientious and unselfish man. It is pleasant to observe that his loss is not only deplored by his colleagues, who knew and valued him as an earnest fellow-worker; but that the students also manifest such a very proper feeling regarding the death of one who laboured so zealously to instruct them.

No. 733, dated Calcutta, the 11th February 1873.

From—DR. DAVID B. SMITH, Officiating Principal, Medical College.

To—DR. G. SAUNDERS, Deputy Inspr.-Genl. of Hospitals, Presidency Circle.

IT is with feelings of deep sorrow that I have heard of the death of Dr. J. Purefoy Colles, Officiating Professor of Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy, which sad event occurred at Dinapore on the 8th instant, at 4 P.M.

2. The Government has no doubt already received the sad intelligence; but it seems but right that I should place it on official record.

3. Dr. Colles's untimely death has cast a gloom over this College; Professors, native teachers, and students of all classes being deeply grieved at the loss of one whose sense of duty was so stern and unflinching, and who succumbed earnestly striving to do faithful service to the State, and to his fellow men.

4. Already the students of this school have, as one man, testified to me their heart-felt grief at his loss, and I have no doubt that within a short time all connected with the College will take steps to perpetuate his memory by the erection of some suitable monumental tablet or the like.

No. 23E, dated Fort William, the 12th February 1873.

Memo. from—Dr. G. Saunders, Dy. Inspr.-Genl. of Hospitals, Presidency Circle.

To—The Secy. to Inspr.-Genl. of Hospitals, Indian Medical Department.

Forwarded for the information of the Inspector-General of Hospitals. I beg to express my entire concurrence in all that the Principal of the College has said regarding the late Dr. Colles's sterling worth and ability.

No one who had become acquainted with him but must have been impressed by the earnest manner in which he devoted himself to professional pursuits, and by his strong sense of duty, his kindly generous nature, and his keen appreciation of all the requirements of his position as a Medical Officer. It was with very great regret that I heard of his premature death.

REPORT OF THE STATE OF THE SALT MARKET FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1872-73.

No. 62C, Fort William, the 11th February 1873.

From—T. B. LANE, ESQ., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L. P.,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

A. MONEY, ESQ., C.B.

I AM directed by the Member in charge to submit the following report on the state of the salt market for the third quarter of 1872-73, comprising the months of October, November, and December last.

2. The quantity of salt consumed (*i.e.*, the quantity of total clearances of salt of all descriptions) in the quarter under report amounted to 1,849,846 maunds, against 2,601,085 maunds in the previous quarter, and 1,996,900 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year; and the total amount of duty levied was Rs. 60,12,000, against Rs. 84,53,526 and Rs. 64,89,925 in the previous and corresponding quarters respectively.

3. There were no sales of Government salt at the Presidency under wholesale rowannahs during the quarter under report, but a portion of the 3,400 maunds of Hidgellee, Ramnuggur salt sold in July last, was cleared during the present quarter.

4. There were no sales of Government salt at Pooree during the present and previous quarters of the year 1872-73. The sales in the corresponding quarter of the year 1871-72 amounted to 1,820 maunds.

5. The quantity of excise salt sold in Cuttack, Balasore, Pooree, and the 24-Pergunnahs during the present quarter, from the stock of the different seasons, is shown in the following table I:—

I.

	Cuttack.			Balasore.				Pooree.			24-Pergunnahs.		
	Manufactures of			Manufactures of				Manufactures of			Manufactures of		
	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1868-69.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.
	Mds.	Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Mds. S. C.	Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds. S.
Balance at close of last quarter ...	20,359*	37,930 29	24,557 10	.....	20,780 1	41,671 13	111,548 30 0	16,212 3	3,023 5	193,583	.....	20,289	.....
Manufactured during the quarter ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	113 30
Total ...	20,359	37,930 29	24,557 10	.....	20,780 1	41,671 13	111,548 30 0	16,212 3	3,023 5	193,583	.....	20,289	113 30
Deduct—													
Sales during the quarter ...	145	1,810 0	.....	.....	4,013 20	7,661 30	26,203 0 0	1,775 0	2,000 0	51,084	.....	6,000	.....
Wastage ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	582 11 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	145	1,810 0	.....	.....	4,013 20	7,661 30	26,785 11 3	1,775 0	2,000 0	51,084	.....	6,000	.....
Balance at close of the quarter ...	20,214*	36,120 29	24,557 10	.....	16,766 21	34,009 23	84,763 18 13	14,437 3	1,023 5	142,499	.....	14,289	113 30

* This includes 451 maunds in Futtehmookah Golah.

It will be observed from the above that the total clearances, or sales, of excise salt during the quarter under review amounted to 1,00,692 maunds, against 1,01,438 maunds in the previous quarter, and 67,152 in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

6. The subjoined Table II shows, comparatively, the total importation into the port of Calcutta, and the total clearances of sea-imported salt

during the quarter under notice, and the corresponding quarters of the two previous years :—

II.

Description of Salt.	3rd quarter of 1870-71.		3rd quarter of 1871-72.		3rd quarter of 1872-73.	
	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Liverpool Pungah ...	15,67,319	13,20,022	17,04,298	15,21,189	14,02,485	12,67,658
Foreign Kurkutch ...	4,14,738	3,09,477	3,09,569	2,42,671	4,68,102	2,71,422
Indian ditto ...	2,17,140	1,97,098	2,768	1,02,057	1,81,128	1,54,571
Ceylon ditto ...	.....	26,526	.....	4,116	.....	.....
Total ...	21,99,197	18,53,123	20,16,635	18,70,033	20,51,715	16,93,651

7. The following are the details of the Indian Kurkutch salt shown above :—

III.

From whence imported.	3rd quarter of 1870-71.		3rd quarter of 1871-72.		3rd quarter of 1872-73.	
	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Kurrachee	.....	1,749	.....	4,650	.....	.....
Bombay	1,55,100	1,33,806	2,768	35,453	92,728	1,02,891
Madras	40,200	59,593	.....	61,954	40,000	51,680
Ennore	.....	1,950	.....	.....	.....	.....
Covelong	.....	.....	.....	.....	48,400	.....
Tuticorin	21,840	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	2,17,140	1,97,098	2,768	1,02,057	1,81,128	1,54,571

8. Table IV shows the quantity of sea-imported salt remaining in the warehouses at the close of the quarter, as compared with the results of the previous four quarters :—

IV.

Where stored.	3rd quarter of 1871-72.	4th quarter of 1871-72.	1st quarter of 1872-73.	2nd quarter of 1872-73.	3rd quarter of 1872-73.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Sulkea Government golahs	20,32,912	21,68,612	19,30,502	11,76,239	16,70,117
Ditto private golahs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ghoosery golahs	93,574	93,574	93,574	19,682	5,603
Seebpore golahs	4,318	3,868	.....	.....	.....
Chittagong Government golahs	1,30,488	1,06,325	1,06,479	1,08,067	1,51,295
Total ...	22,61,292	23,72,379	21,30,555	13,03,988	18,27,015

9. Table V exhibits the despatches of salt from Calcutta by water and the three railways, *vid* the several salt pass stations into the interior of the country, both east and west of the river Hooghly, during the quarter under review, and the corresponding quarters of the two preceding years.

V.

Period.	*Vid* Ballikhal.	*Vid* Sankrail.	*Vid* Gewa-khalee.	*Vid* Kidder-pore.	*Vid* Bullia-ghatta.	By the East Indian Railway.	By the Eastern Bengal Railway.	By the Calcutta and S. E. Railway.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
3rd quarter of 1870-71 ...	4,62,963	1,14,908	93,948	91,177	8,70,494	2,81,834	5,547	29
Ditto 1871-72 ...	5,82,327	1,24,109	1,03,055	1,05,580	6,79,348	3,42,248	2,283	10
Ditto 1872-73 ...	4,80,760	1,18,159	88,287	77,763	6,87,592	3,63,556	1,648	2,200

The quantity of salt despatched by the East Indian Railway to stations beyond Buxar in the quarter under review amounted to 12,367 maunds, as noted on the margin, against 8,111 maunds in the previous quarter, and 16,077 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the year 1871-72.

	Mds.
October ...	3,046
November ...	4,860
December ...	4,461
Total ...	12,367

10. The shipments of Liverpool salt for the port of Calcutta, according to published market reports, were as follow :—

	Mds.
October	10,193
November	13,718
December	28,640
Total ...	52,551

No shipments to Chittagong were made during the quarter under report.

11. The market prices, per 100 maunds of Liverpool, and other descriptions of salt at the close of each fortnight during the quarter, as compared with those obtaining during the same period last year, are shown in the following table :—

VI.

Description of Salt.	Prices on 15th October.		Prices on 31st October.		Prices on 15th November.		Prices on 30th November.		Prices on 15th December.		Prices on 31st December.	
	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.	1871.	1872.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Liverpool Pungah ...	52	75	60	63	47	70	46	69	42	63	40	64
French Kurkutch ...	51	62	53	58	52	61	56	57	57	60	55	60
Jeddah ditto ...	64	67	64	69	67	71	67	74	67	75	69	76
Ceylon ditto ...	54	...	54	...	54	...	54	...	54	...	54	...
Scinde ditto ...	38	...	38	...	38	...	38	...	38	...	38	...
Bombay ditto ...	54	46	55	44	60	51	60	54	60	58	60	59
Madras ditto ...	51	52	52	54	56	54	56	55	56	55	56	60

12. In Table VII are exhibited the total quantities of salt that were available for the private export trade at the several depôts in the Madras Presidency on the 1st day of each of the three months constituting the quarter under report and the corresponding quarters of 1870-71 and 1871-72 :—

VII.

Months.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
October	6,76,250	7,45,508	6,16,340
November ...	6,53,962	6,88,088	5,66,340
December ...	6,53,962	6,36,188	5,66,340

13. The following table shows the quantities of sea-imported salt admitted into bond and cleared from bond and shipboard at Chittagong during the quarter under review and the corresponding quarter of 1871-72 respectively :—

VIII.

Description of Salt.	Admitted to Bond.		Cleared.	
	3rd quarter of 1871-72.	3rd quarter of 1872-73.	3rd quarter of 1871-72.	3rd quarter of 1872-73.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Liverpool Pungah	1,00,085	95,015	50,906	55,503
Madras Kurkutch	.....	.....	2,206	.....
Bremen Pungah	.....	.....	3,908	.....
Total ...	1,00,085	95,015	57,020	55,503

No transactions in sea-imported salt have been reported during the quarter from any of the ports in the Orissa division.

ANNUAL REPORT ON ASSAM FRONTIER TRIBES.

No. $\frac{6}{11}$T, dated on board the Steamer *Jaboona*, the 22nd January 1873.

From—Colonel Henry Hopkinson, Governor-General's Agent, North-East Frontier, and Commissioner of Assam.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Political Department.

As required by paragraph 7 of your letter No. 185, dated 17th January 1871, I have the honor to forward the following annual report of our relations with the frontier tribes in Assam not actually under our immediate management.

2. *Kamroop.*—The Deputy Commissioner, Major Lamb, reports "that the frontier tribes have been peaceful during the past year as far as this district is concerned."

3. *Durrung.*—Captain M. O. Boyd, Officiating Deputy Commissioner.

"My predecessor's report submitted in February 1872 mentioned the attendance of a considerable number of Thibetan Bhúteas at the annual fair at Udulgooree in the previous month, and stated that our relations with these people were most friendly. Shortly after the submission of his annual report, Major Graham met the Thibetan Chiefs, known as the Sath Rajahs, at Udulgooree: in the course of conversation these Rajahs asserted a claim to the grazing lands lying between the hills and a path running through Chardooar called Boyragee Patgiri's road, and to the right of collecting revenue for forest produce taken from the spurs of the lower hills. It was pointed out to them that their claim was perfectly untenable, and that their practice, commenced only about three years ago, of levying revenue on the workers of the rubber mehal (a large part of which lies in the tract of land these Rajahs claimed), could not be countenanced for a moment. The Rajahs signified their intention of continuing to collect revenue from the workers of these forests, but promised that the collection should be made by two Kachari agents, and not by their own followers. This meeting may then be said to have been barren of good results, except in so far as it cleared up any doubts that may have previously existed as to the pretensions of these Rajahs. The matter was duly reported.* During last cold season an objection to the survey of the land lying to the north of Boyragee Patgiri's road was made by a Bhútea Rajah of the name of Fesoo: the officer in charge of the survey party, however, proceeded to do his duty, and was not interfered with by the Bhúteas.

* To Government, No. 54, dated 24th February 1872.
To Government, No. 77, dated 15th March 1872.
From Government, No. 1302, dated 28th March 1872.

"A claim similar to that of the Sath Rajahs was put forward on behalf of the Tongso Penlow by Fispa, a petty chief residing at Marsala on our immediate frontier, the place where the Bernuddy enters the plains: Fispa was met in January last by Major Graham and myself, when he informed us that his orders were to collect tax from the boat-cutters who carry on their work at the foot of the hills; and added that his superiors claimed the right of levying tax on all persons working the lands north of our rice cultivation. During the past year a party of refugee Bhúteas, who settled in the Mungledye subdivision, and who had commenced the cultivation of lands at the foot of the hills, were informed by me that they could not be permitted to reside on the immediate frontier, but should receive lands at a safe distance from the boundary. They declined to accede to these terms, and returned to their own country. With the exception of some petty exactions from Assamese working the forests at the foot of the hills, the Bhúteas have during the past year been perfectly quiet.

"In February 1872 an application was made by the Akas to my predecessor for 82 poorahs of land for religious purposes. Major Graham informed them that their demand was one which he could not think of supporting, and strongly counselled them to abstain from their practice of extorting provisions and coolies from our own people, which they defended on the ground that it was 'an old custom.' This tribe has, however, given no trouble during the year, only one case having been reported against an Aka. The orders prohibiting our people from going up to the hills for the purpose of trade in rubber, and the discontinuance of farming the rubber mehal, have doubtlessly deprived the Akas of many opportunities of making petty exactions.

"The Duffla Grams (or Chiefs) came in as usual for their posa in March and April; our relations with these tribes during the past year have

been very satisfactory; there has been an entire absence of everything of the nature of a raid. The refugee Dufflas have not been interfered with in any way by their independent brethren, and have themselves kept out of mischief. The District Superintendent of Police has lately paid a visit to the Duffla hills, and obtained some specimens of what is believed to be coal; he met the two principal Chiefs of the Komarmura Dufflas, who accompanied him back to the plains. The demeanour of the Dufflas was extremely friendly, and I think the visit will be productive of good results.

"Our relations with the frontier tribes may on the whole be considered satisfactory. The Bhúteas, it is true, put forward preposterous claims, but I think they are indisposed to go any length in support of them; while as regards the Akas and Dufflas, it would not be possible for a year to have passed more quietly than has 1872."

4. *Nowgong.*—Major Sherer, Deputy Commissioner.

"The only hill tribes with which we are brought in contact in this district are the Nagas and the Meekirs.

"The former are within the jurisdiction of the Deputy Commissioner, Naga Hills, and have up to date been peaceful neighbours. The latter are a hardworking, inoffensive set of people, and have given me no cause whatever for anxiety."

5. *Seebsaugor.*—Major A. E. Campbell, Deputy Commissioner.

"The blockade of the Lotah Naga Dooars, which took place during the year, was withdrawn in accordance with the orders contained in Government letter No. 2092, dated 28th March 1872, but the Sonareegam Nagas have not come down to have the orders of Government explained; in fact, they refused to do so when sent for by the Assistant Commissioner of Golaghat.

"The Assistant Commissioner reports that as soon as the blockade was withdrawn, there was a general rush of Assamese into the hills, and the Nagas got all they wanted without the necessity of leaving their own villages.

"The other tribes of Nagas along the border have been very quiet during the past year. There has been only one complaint made to me by an Assamese against the Namsang Nagas of the Gelekee Dooar, who at night came down and stole a bullock.

"This chang is one of the nearest to the plains, and the Nagas of it come and go all the year round.

"The owner of the bullock followed the track of the thieves right up to the chang, found his bullock tied to a tree, and was bringing it away when three or four Nagas came up and slaughtered the animal on the spot.

"The man came to me, and I sent for the headmen of the chang, and told them they must settle the case with the complainant.

"They held a punchayet then and there, and settled it for Rs. 20, which they have since paid to the complainant.

"Within the last few days an Assamese from Obhoypore has complained against the Banfera Nagas that about 40 of them went to his house and took away a buffalo, some ducks, and a cloth, because he, the Assamese, refused to go to the chang when sent for by the Rajah. I have sent a kotokee to call the Banfera Rajah down.

"During the past year the Nagas have carried on a thriving trade in rubber, which they bring down and sell and barter with the Assamese. Such a demand exists for this article that the Assamese go in large numbers to the hills; this has lately been put a stop to by recent orders, but it is impossible to prevent them going to the hills, as the paths through the jungle are innumerable. As long as a good trade exists between the people of the plains and hills, I think our relations with the tribes will not be other than satisfactory; at the same time it would be very desirable if our southern boundary was properly defined and the Nagas made to understand it."

6. *Lukhimpore.*—Major W. C. S. Clarke, Deputy Commissioner.

Nagas.

"Beginning with the Nagas bordering on Jaipore and the country beyond and south of the Booree Dehing, nothing has occurred to mark the year in any way. The Namsangia and Bordoaria tribes are still at feud, but they have not preferred any questions for settlement to me; their relations generally with us are friendly and quite satisfactory. In the present month I am about to take

an opportunity of visiting some of the tribes and making my way from Jaipore by the hills to opposite Makoom. Personal contact and knowledge of their localities and their condition will give me more to write about the Nagas."

Doanneahs and Phakials.

"These two tribes inhabit the border of the plains from the Brahmapootra south to the Booree Dehing. They are half Assamese and half Kampti or Singpho. They for the most part reside where the land assessment reaches them, and may be considered ordinary ryots."

Singphos.

"Of the Singphos I have seen more during the year. I saw several of the leading Gams or Chiefs last January at the *mela* at Saddya, and in this last November I had an opportunity of seeing them at home in their own settlements on and beyond the Noa Dehing and the Tengapani. They are thrifty and well-to-do, live, in not very large numbers, in well constructed clean villages, and their communities appear well ordered and very obedient to their Gams. I met with the best possible reception from all those I visited, and indeed many came in from distances to meet me and pay their respects. I think the popular feeling among the Singphos is as good as could be wished, but they certainly have no reason to be otherwise than perfectly contented; a grand country, producing everything they want without a single cess or tax or call on them of any kind; it would be hard indeed if they were not contented and happy."

Kamptes.

"With the Kamptes I had also some opportunity of communication at the Saddya *mela*, and again in this last November, while on the frontier, I visited several of their settlements on the Tengapani and Noa Dehing. The Kamptes and Singphos live, apparently, on most amicable terms. The Kamptes, owing to their written language, which is, for purposes of education and religion, adopted by the Singphos, who possess no written character, may perhaps be held superior of the two tribes; the Singphos have no priesthood, and using the religion of the Kamptes. Kamptie priests occupy their temples and preside over all religious ceremonies, as well as educate the lads of the village who desire to learn. In time young Singphos will doubtless enter the priesthood. The Kamptes are a very cleanly nice tribe, and are most excellent cultivators. I saw finer rice crops in the cleared and artificially irrigated high forest land of the Kamptes than I have seen anywhere in the plains. As with the Singphos, our relations with the Kamptes are as good as they possibly can be. They too are at present beyond the reach of taxes or imposts of any kind. Those Kamptes who reside within the regularly assessed mouzahs of course pay the tax upon land."

Mishmees.

"Except at the *mela* last year, I have as yet seen but little of the Mishmees. Several of the Digaroo, Mijoo, and those of the Chulkatta tribes who were not under ban, came down and partook of the festivities. A deputation from the Chulkattas under ban came down to obtain a treaty with the Government* and permission to enter the plains and trade on condition of good behaviour, and in the coming February I shall meet these last with a view to making terms with them; no raids have disturbed the peace of the frontier in that part, and our relations with the Mishmees is as satisfactory as we could wish. During the cold season they carry on an active trade in Saddya and Debrooghur; are well behaved and make no complaints."

* To Government, No. 179T, dated 15th May 1872.
From Government, No. 2470, dated 12th June 1872.
To Government, No. 2106, dated 2nd October 1872.
From Government, No. 4733, dated 30th October 1872.
To Government, No. 154, dated 15th November 1872.

Abors.

"I have as yet seen very little of the Abors. I gave them their 'posa' last year, which they took in their quiet undemonstrative way. Nothing has disturbed the peace of the borders from the Dehing to Sessi, or along the whole line of Abor frontier. I hope to see more of the Abors in the coming February."

Hill Meerees and Dufflas.

"One Duffla raid was committed at Borpathor, the whole particulars of which, up to the recent return of two of the three remaining captives and

the promise to surrender the third shortly, have been duly reported.* The raid had no political significance, and the surrender of the captives, together with the furnishing of security for their good behaviour by the clan concerned, if allowed access to the plains, will be all that is necessary to obtain from them. There was no bloodshed, and meanwhile we have one of the offenders in custody as a hostage for the return of the remaining captives. The Dufflas of North Lukhimpore have not been a turbulent people, and have come down to trade in numbers, and seem to get on well with the Assamese of the plains. There is scarcely any distinguishing between the Hill Meerees and the Dufflas; they are similar in looks, character, and general behaviour."

* To Government, No. G4T, dated 4th January 1873.
To Government, No. G10T, dated 13th January 1873.
To Government, No. G19T, dated 15th January 1873.

7. *Commissioner's remarks.*—There is little to add to the above reports of the district officers, as every incident which has occurred during the past year, and which has in any way affected our relations with the tribes on the border, has been specially reported to Government. In Kamroop the boundary between British territory and Bhútan is now in course of settlement by Major Graham, who has been appointed special Boundary Commissioner for the purpose, and it has recently been decided by the Government to establish a post at Dewangiri to represent British possession. Twice during the past year the District Superintendent of Kamroop has visited Dewangiri and the neighbouring villages, and has held communication with Bhútea traders and others from the interior of Bhútan. On the subject of Dewangiri, however, the Government has directed the Boundary Commissioner to obtain full particulars during the course of his tour, and as a special report will be submitted by that officer through me, I need not say more now.

8. In Durrung the encroaching attitude of the Towang Bhúteas and the Hazari Kowa Akas has already been brought to the notice of Government, and the orders of Government received in your letter No. 1302 of the 28th March last. The question of the boundary between Durrung and the Bhútea and Aka hills will shortly also be adjusted by Major Graham. The behaviour of the Dufflas in this district has been perfectly satisfactory. Captain Trotter, the District Superintendent, has recently paid a visit to some of their villages, and met two of the principal chiefs, who returned with him to the plains. The result of this visit has been separately reported by the District Superintentent, and will shortly be submitted to Government.

9. In Nowgong we have only to deal with the Meekirs, and, as Major Sherer observes, they are an inoffensive race, and have given us no cause for anxiety; besides, the Meekirs of Nowgong are all our own subjects, living within the limits of our civil jurisdiction.

10. In Seebsaugor our relations with the Nagas have on the whole been satisfactory, although one or two instances of cattle-lifting have been traced to them. I may here just mention that the American Baptist Missionary Society are endeavouring to form a mission station amongst the Haimong Long Nagas; but this matter has already been submitted to Government in my letter quoted in the margin.

No. G3T, dated 4th January 1873.

11. In Lukhimpore our relations with the frontier tribes have been very satisfactory, perhaps more so than in the year 1871. The difficulty which arose with the Sangloi Nagas out of the quarrel between some of their tribe and Mr. Eades was satisfactorily settled during the year,—(*vide* Government order No. 1704, dated 13th March 1872). The Chulkatta Mishmees, who have been prohibited since 1867 from visiting the plains, made overtures to the Deputy Commissioner to have the ban removed, and the Lieutenant-Governor has accorded his sanction to their application on certain terms which will be explained to them during the present cold season. The Abors, Singphos, and the other tribes, have been perfectly peaceful, and shown no disposition to give any trouble. The only circumstance calling for any remark in the Lukhimpore district was an act of aggression by a few Dufflas on the borders of the North Lukhimpore sub-division, who came down and carried away five of their brethren from the plains. The police succeeded in capturing one of the aggressors with his prisoner, and a second prisoner was afterwards recovered by his friends, but the rest of the band escaped with their three remaining captives to the hills; two of the prisoners have, however, since been

restored by the Duffla Chiefs in person, and the Deputy Commissioner writes that promises to restore the third have been made, and in the meantime the Duffla, who was captured by the police, is detained in our hands as a hostage. Full particulars regarding this raid have recently been furnished to Government in my letters noted in the margin.

Vide marginal note in paragraph 6.

12. In concluding I would observe that I have received Government letter No. 110, dated 10th January 1873, directing the submission of this report at the close of the financial year; but as I had already obtained all the district reports—and indeed this report was at the time in the hands of the copyist—I have determined on submitting it at once, and trust His Honor will accept it for the calendar year 1872, and the recent instructions will be adhered to for the future. I may add that if anything of interest occurs during the remainder of the Deputy Commissioner's tours, it will be reported separately to Government.

RESOLUTION.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Calcutta, the 24th February 1873.

READ—

A letter dated the 22nd January 1873, No. $\frac{67}{71}$ from the Commissioner of the Assam Division, submitting his report on our relations with the Assam frontier tribes for the year 1872.

1. The report shows that the year has been, on the whole, free from unpleasant events, and that the relations of Government with the Assam tribes are at present peaceable. This is undoubtedly matter for congratulation.

2. Along the frontier of Kamroop the boundary with Bhútan Proper is now being demarcated on the ground; and when this is done there will remain no doubt as to the respective rights of the two Governments in the forests and streams of the lower hills.

3. The Towang Bhúteas who are supposed to be in some sense tributary to Lhassa, and who have no connection with Bhútan, have, during the year, put forward claims to lands on the plains to which, under the terms of their agreements, they had clearly no right. They have been informed, with the approval of the Governor-General in Council, that the payment of their annual pension will be strictly contingent on their good faith and adherence to their engagements. Our relations with these Thibetan Bhúteas have, however, hitherto been so amicable that the Lieutenant-Governor has every hope that when the Boundary Commissioners reach that part of the frontier, they will be able to come to a satisfactory settlement of their claims; meeting, as they will do, any reasonable demands in a liberal spirit in the manner already directed.

4. A claim made by the Akas for increased allowances, and for some land, was rejected; but the Lieutenant-Governor would not object to entertain a proposition for giving them a small grant of land to be held on condition of good behaviour. There is, in His Honor's opinion, no better way of securing the fealty of hillmen than this.

5. Further particulars regrding the supposed discovery of coal in the Duffla country are awaited, and details should be furnished of the visit paid by the District Superintendent of Police to these hills. A full account of the character of the hills, and what Captain Trotter saw there, would be very interesting.

6. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to notice that the complications arising out of the theft of a bullock by the Namsang Nagas of the Gelekee Dooar was so speedily settled by the Deputy Commissioner of Seebsaugor.

7. Orders have lately been issued for the definition and settlement of the southern boundary of the Seebsaugor district, and the Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Deputy Commissioner that it is most desirable no time should be lost in disposing of this matter. The Commissioner's report of how he means to carry it through is awaited.

8. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes that regulations for securing the safe and amicable conduct of the rubber trade to the advantage of both parties, and calculated to promote beneficial intercourse, will soon be issued.

9. The Lieutenant-Governor will await with interest the report of the visit paid by Major Clarke, Deputy Commissioner, Luckimpore, to the tribes on the route from Jaipore to Makoom.

10. Some further details should also be submitted regarding the character of the country of the Singphos which the Deputy Commissioner of Luckimpore describes as "a grand country, producing everything they want," and regarding the country of the Kampties, where the cultivation is pronounced to be so excellent. These civilized and energetic people are a pleasing contrast to the savage tribes living in some of the hills round the valley. The further report promised in regard to the "political frontier establishment" called Bullumteers, who are presumed to be Kampti volunteers, has not yet been furnished as required in the orders (Nos. 5290 and 5599) of the 10th September and 1st October 1872, and it is requested that it may be sent speedily.

11. It is the particular wish of His Honor that friendly relations should, as far as is possible, be cultivated with the Mishmee tribe. They may be said to hold the direct route to China, and if communication overland be in the future established with that country, it must be with the aid of the Mishmees.

12. It is a great satisfaction to the Lieutenant-Governor to hear that the Abors have been so quiet.

13. The Commissioner and his officers deserve the Lieutenant-Governor's thanks for their successful management.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Commissioner of the Assam Division for information and guidance, and that the report and resolution be published in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

GOVERNMENT OFFICERS SUMMONED TO GIVE EVIDENCE IN CIVIL SUITS.

RESOLUTION.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

JUDICIAL.

Calcutta, the 20th June 1872.

IT has come to the notice of the Lieutenant-Governor that practically no rule is observed in regulating the grant of leave of absence to Government servants who are summoned by private parties to give evidence in civil suits before courts of justice; that in the High Court at Calcutta they receive an allowance from the parties requiring their attendance, but that no deduction from their pay is made on account of their absence from duty, and indeed that such absence is never reported to the office of the Accountant-General.

2. His Honor is pleased to lay down the following rules on the subject, and desires that they should be strictly observed:—

1. If Government servants are summoned from a distance to attend as witnesses in any civil courts of justice at the instance of private parties, they must report the fact to Government if they are gazetted officers, or to the heads of their departments if they are ministerial officers: the Government or the head of the office will decide whether the witness should be allowed casual leave, or whether he should have leave without pay, and whether a substitute should be entertained.

2. The heads of all offices must take care to see that when Government servants attend a court in their own districts on being summoned by a private party, the public service does not suffer and the witness benefit.

3. The allowances other than travelling expenses paid to such witnesses should in all cases be either used to provide a proper substitute for the performance of their duties during their absence, or should be credited to Government.

Ordered that a copy of the above be forwarded to all heads of offices and departments under this Government for information and communication to their subordinates.

Ordered, also, that a copy be forwarded to the Revenue, General, Appointment, Political, and Public Works Departments of this Office.

No. 609C, dated Fort William, the 30th November 1872.

From—T. B. LANE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L. P.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Judicial Dept.

WITH advertence to the Government circular marginally noted, on the subject of the grant of leave to Government servants who are summoned by private parties to give evidence in court, the Collector of Customs at Calcutta has submitted the accompanying memorandum from the Superintendent of the Preventive Service, together with a letter from Mr. G. Scott, Preventive Officer.

Circular from the Government of Bengal in the Judicial Department, No. 31, dated 20th June 1872.

2. Mr. Scott appears to have been summoned to give evidence in a private case, and the press of work did not allow of his obtaining leave without the appointment of a substitute, as Government could not be put to any expense in the matter. The result is that Mr. Scott, being bound to attend the summons of the court, loses his pay; and at the same time being on leave without pay, is liable to have a day's loss of service counted against him. In submitting the case, the Collector observed that there is not a case of dispute in the Small Cause Court respecting the receipt or delivery of cargo in which Customs Preventive Officers are not called as witnesses, and that all these in such cases must suffer equally with Mr. Scott.

3. Under these circumstances the Member in charge enquired of the Government Solicitor whether the Small Cause Court does not, on application, pay witnesses for attending the court. From his reply, copy of which accompanies, it appears that the court does not consider itself empowered by law to order any allowances to be made to witnesses; and, with reference to the Government Solicitor's suggestion, Mr. Money recommends that, under the power conferred by section 15, Act XXVI of 1864, the Lieutenant-Governor may be now moved to extend to the Court of Small Causes in Calcutta the provisions of section 151 of the Code of Civil Procedure with respect to the expenses of witnesses—Government servants.

No. 1194, dated Fort William, the 15th November 1872.

From—F. D. CHAUNTRELL, Esq., Solicitor to Government.

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L. P.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 684C of the 8th instant, and to apprise you that the Court of Small Causes in Calcutta does not consider itself empowered by law to order any allowance to be made to witnesses for attending in that court; no application on the subject would therefore at present avail, but I may perhaps be permitted to point out that a remedy may be found by extending under section 15 of Act XXVI of 1864, if it should be thought advisable, the provision of the Code of Civil Procedure with respect to the expense of witnesses (section 151) to the Court of Small Causes.

The papers which accompanied your letter are returned.

No. 569, dated Calcutta, the 24th October 1872.

From—J. A. CRAWFORD, Esq., Collector of Customs, Calcutta.

To—The Secy. to the Member in Charge, Customs Dept., Board of Revenue, L.P.

WITH reference to circular of the Judicial Department of the Government of Bengal, dated 20th June 1872, on the grant of leave to Government servants who are summoned by private parties to give evidence in court, I have the honor to forward herewith a memorandum* from the Superintendent of the Preventive Service, accompanied by a letter from Mr. Preventive Officer G. Scott.

* No. 113L, dated 1st October 1872.

2. It will be seen that Mr. Scott was summoned to give evidence in a private case. The press of work did not allow of Mr. Scott's getting leave without finding a substitute, and as Government cannot be put to any expense, Mr. Scott, who is bound to attend the summons of the court, loses his pay, and at the same time, being on leave without pay, is liable to have the day's service counted against him.

3. There is not a Small Cause Court dispute which arises regarding the receipt or delivery of cargo in which Customs Preventive Officers are not called as witnesses; and all these in such cases must suffer equally with Mr. Scott.

4. I therefore bring the matter to notice, in the hope that the Customs Preventive Service may obtain some relief.

5. I would suggest a reference to the law officers of Government as to whether there is no possibility under the Small Cause Court Act of a witness obtaining his expenses from the party calling him.

No. 113L, dated the 1st October 1872.

Memo. by—CAPTAIN H. LAURELL, Superintendent, Preventive Service.

UNDER resolution in the Judicial Department passed by the Lieutenant-Governor, a Government servant summoned by private parties to give evidence in a civil suit before a court of justice should be allowed casual or leave without pay at the discretion of the head of the office; and all allowances other than travelling expenses paid to such individual should be credited to Government, or used to provide a substitute, in order that Government may have not to bear any expense. In the case under notice Mr. Scott was summoned to the Small Cause Court by a private individual to give evidence in a private case, but the transaction of which happened to be witnessed by Mr. Scott (a disinterested party) in his official capacity as Preventive Officer.

The circumstances under which Mr. Scott was summoned do not appear to justify his evidence being of any benefit to the case either one way or the other; but as far as he is concerned, he was bound to obey the order of the court as much as this office is bound to receive and forward a summons to a Preventive Officer on duty.

Casual leave can only be granted when the Government is not put to any extra expense; and at present, owing to the pressure of work, Mr. Scott could not obtain relief from his duties without Government being put to extra expense. Mr. Scott would, according to the Government orders, have to lose his day's pay, as the person who subpœnaed him did not give him an allowance, nor did the court allow any, although Mr. Scott applied for Rs. 3-4, being the amount Government had to pay for the officer who relieved him.

Mr. Scott's case applies to the officers of the service generally, who are often summoned as witnesses in cases unconnected with their duties, but which they have cognizance of, owing to their having been on boardships on duty. To make them lose their pay and service on their being so summoned is hardly, I think, the intention of Government, and I beg to submit the case for the order of the Collector.

Dated Calcutta, the 27th September 1872.

From—MR. G. SCOTT, Preventive Officer.

To—CAPTAIN H. LAURELL, Superintendent, Preventive Service.

IN reply to your memorandum No. 256 of the 25th instant, informing me of having to pay for a substitute to enable me to attend the court, I beg to state that I was attached to the ship *Walter Baine* when the captain engaged a steward for the ship, and which took place in my presence whilst on duty on board the above vessel. After my leaving the ship some altercation took place between the captain and steward, and the steward summoned the captain for his wages, and subpœnaed me for my evidence of the engagement between them when I was on board. I also showed your memorandum No. 256 to the court, and asked if the expenses would be paid to me, when I was informed by the court that the court could not do anything for me, as it was no private business of mine, and on duty when I could not avoid being present when the engagement took place. I beg you will kindly grant me the day under Government expense, as I would have to attend court or be fined very heavily for not attending, for which I shall be thankful.

No. 6909, dated Calcutta, the 18th December 1872.

From—L. C. ABBOTT, ESQ., for Offg. Under-Secy. to the Government of Bengal.

To—The First Judge of the Court of Small Causes in Calcutta.

I AM directed to forward to you the accompanying copy of a letter, No. 609C of the 30th ultimo, from the Board of Revenue, recommending the extension to the Court of Small Causes in Calcutta of the provisions of section 151 of the Code of Civil Procedure with respect to the expenses of witnesses who are Government servants. Before taking any action in the matter, the Lieutenant-Governor would be glad to know whether the Judges of the Court of Small Causes see any objection to the proposal made by the Board, or whether they can suggest any other remedy for the inconvenience at present existing.

No. 39, dated Fort Willam, the 5th February 1873.

From—G. S. FAGAN, ESQ., First Judge, Calcutta Court of Small Causes.

To—H. L. DAMPIER, ESQ., Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, Judicial Dept.

IN reply to your office letter No. 6909, bearing date the 18th December last, I have the honor to state that section 15 of Act XXVI of 1864 authorizes the extension of certain parts of the Civil Procedure Code to this court, but not with modifications. If, therefore, His Honor should see fit to extend section 151 of the Code to this court, it would have to be extended as it stands, and could not be limited to the special case of Government servants, as recommended by the Board of Revenue. This appears to me an insuperable objection to the proposal made by the Board.

2. With reference to the concluding words of the letter under reply, it seems to me that neither the Government nor its revenue officers undergo any

special inconvenience which is not shared by every other member of the Calcutta community. The cases are not very numerous in which Preventive Officers are summoned as witnesses; but where they do not occur, it seems to me that the giving of evidence regarding a tally is as much a public service as the taking of the tally itself. At all events the Government in these cases suffers no greater inconvenience than is suffered by every mercantile firm, large or petty, whose clerk is called upon to give evidence in a private case. The remedy, therefore, would appear to me for the Government to give to the Collector or other revenue authority directions to allow the day's pay to any Preventive Officer who was *bonâ fide* in attendance on a court of justice on a subpœna or other order, accompanied with a discretion to refuse that allowance if the revenue authority should see cause to believe that the attendance was not *bonâ fide* and compulsory, but had been brought about by the Preventive Officer's own contrivance or suggestion. The loss to the Government would be small, and would, it seems to me, be very insignificant in comparison with the mischief which would ensue upon the creation of an invidious distinction in favor of Government servants generally as a body, or of Preventive Officers as a special class of that body.

3. As to the proposal made by the Solicitor to Government in his letter of the 15th November last, addressed to the Secretary to the Board, (copy of which has been forwarded with the letter under reply), viz. that section 15 of the Code should be extended to this court *without* alteration, I do not understand that my opinion upon that is desired. Such an extension might undoubtedly, as I have already stated, be legally made; but the policy of making such an extension opens up a wider question affecting the utility of this court, and the cheapness of the remedy which it was intended to afford and does afford to suitors. If, in the 30,000 or 40,000 suits which are annually instituted in this court, the expenses of all the witnesses required by either party are to be paid beforehand, the institution and defence of suits here will certainly be considerably increased in expense, and *de minimis curat ex*, which is the fundamental maxim of this court, will be in a very considerable degree less applicable to it.

4. This is one of several considerations which will no doubt occur to His Honor should His Honor think of adopting Mr. Chauntrell's proposition.

No. 911, dated Calcutta, the 14th February 1873.

From—A. Mackenzie, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Judicial Department.

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L. P.

With reference to your letter No. 6090 of the 30th November last, and its enclosures, regarding the hardship to which Government servants summoned to give evidence in private cases in the Calcutta Small Cause Court are subjected by the operation of the rules laid down in the Government resolution of the 20th June last, in consequence of no expenses of witnesses being paid by that court, I am directed to forward herewith a copy of a letter from the First Judge, No. 39 of the 5th instant, and to say that, under the circumstances therein set forth, the Lieutenant-Governor does not consider it expedient to extend the provisions of section 151 of the Civil Procedure Code to the Calcutta Court of Small Causes, either generally or as regards Government servants. While, therefore, the rule of that court remains what it is, Government servants summoned for an hour or two as witnesses should not be subjected to any deduction of pay unless it is absolutely unavoidable. For the rest, Government servants are in the same situation as private individuals, and it would be as impossible to make a rule that Government should pay when Government servants are summoned as that private people should be paid by Government for the loss of their time when summoned by parties to proceedings in the Calcutta Small Cause Court.

2. It seems, however, to the Lieutenant-Governor to be a strange state of things that the whole community should be liable to be summoned as witnesses by private parties, and that there should be no means of remunerating them. The Lieutenant-Governor will, in the event of any amendment of the Small Cause Court Act, consider if it may not be possible to give discretionary powers to the Calcutta Small Cause Court Judges to order payment of witnesses' expenses.

VIENNA AND LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS OF 1873.

THE following report is published for the information of District Officers, as showing the kind of memorandum which the Bengal Committee for International Exhibitions desire to obtain in reply to their Circular No. VI.

No. 42, dated Furreedpore, the 31st January 1873.

From—DR. B. N. BOSE, Civil Surgeon of Furreedpore.

To—W. S. WELLS, Esq., Magistrate and Collector of Furreedpore.

IN compliance with your memorandum No. 1375, dated Camp Goalundo, the 27th December 1872, forwarding, in original, Circular No. VI, from H. H. Locke, Esq., Secretary to the Bengal Committee for the London and Vienna International Exhibitions of 1873, dated the 14th idem, to your address, for information such as therein called for, I have the honor herewith to submit a report as follows—in the order the subject is arranged in the circular, viz. food, drink, and smoking.

ANIMAL FOOD.

FISH.

The subjoined list contains all the edible fishes ordinarily met with in the district under each class :—

SEA-FISH :

The only sea-fish, if it may be so-called (properly speaking it is a brackish fish), which occasionally visits the Ganges, is the *vecti Coius vacti*, known in this part of the country as the *korail machh*. It is, I believe, only met with in the Pudma, and is a highly esteemed fish, often attaining a length, when full grown, of between 4 and 5 feet, and weighing from 80 to 100lb. Small sizes are common in May and June.

RIVER-FISHES :

The principal river-fishes may be enumerated as follows. I should here remark that many of these fish also inhabit the lakes, jheels, and tanks, where they either find their way during the inundation, or may be artificially introduced when young for breeding purposes.

SILURIDÆ OR NAKED FISHES—*genus* SILURUS :

Silurus pelorius (*boali*, বোয়াল).

This fish often attains a pretty good size, from 3 to 4 feet long, and is one of the most voracious inhabitants of the fresh water, subsisting chiefly on crustacea and small fry of all kinds : hence it is always dreaded in tanks where fish is preserved. It has been known sometimes to snap at a frog, and would not hesitate to take even a rat, if in its way. The flesh of the boali is pale white, coarse, and loosely disposed, and almost tasteless, consequently little relished.

Silurus pabda (*papta*, পাবদা).

This is a small flat fish, seldom reaching quite a foot in length, with a white, smooth, shining skin, and a rich delicate flavour. It is one of the best-tasted of the tribe, and a good, wholesome table fish. It can be procured nearly all the year round.

Genus PIMELODUS :

The members of this genus furnish some important species, of which the largest and and most common, viz. the *air*, *paor*, *pangas* (*papta pangas*), and *dhye* (*papta silondia*), constitute a considerable part of the fish diet of the lower orders. The *air* is composed almost entirely of muscular fibre, but the other two species are loaded with fat, which is often deposited in a considerable layer under the skin : hence they possess a rich flavour. *Papta tangra* and *papta rita*, although the smallest of the group, are in greater request for their wholesome and agreeable flesh. They are also very common fishes. There is another of these fish which is scarcely less valued, viz. the *bacha papta bacha*. It is a flat fish about a foot long, and its flesh is sweet and highly flavoured.

Genus MYSTUS.—*Mystus Chitala* (*Chittol*) :

So called from its habit of frequently rising to the surface and then suddenly turning flat before plunging again. This is a large flat fish, very oily, and full of bones, and far from very wholesome, although much prized by the natives of the eastern districts. The same remark applies to its dwarf representative, the *pholi* (ফলী মাছ).

CLUPEIDÆ:

The herring family supplies a number of important species, such as *phansa* (*Clupea phasa*), *hilsa* (*Clupanodon ilisha*), and *chella* (*Clupea cultrata*). They have white shining scales, are very bony, and provided with an air bladder. The two first only inhabit the rivers; the third is also found in tanks and other stagnant waters. The *phansa* and *khoira*—which is allied to it—mostly appear during the dry season, but the other kinds may be had nearly throughout the year. The most valuable of these fish no doubt is the *hilsa*, which is captured in vast numbers in the district during the rains as they ascend the streams to spawn, and after fairly glutting the local markets, the remainder is cut up and salted for import to Calcutta and other places. The great estimation in which this fish is held is well known.

MUGILIDÆ:

The mullet tribe is represented by the common *khorsola* (*mugil khorsula*), which is to be had here in good condition all the year round. It is a rich, delicious fish.

PERCIDÆ:

From the perches is derived the well known mango-fish *Polynemus paradiseus*. Only a few are caught here during the early mango season, but I hear they are more common in the rivers towards the south-west of the district, as near Babookhalee.

GADIDÆ, *or the Cod Family*:

To this family belongs the *bhola* (*Gadus bhola*). This is a common fish, few boned, and well flavoured; but, curiously enough, it is little thought of by the natives. It generally grows to about a foot long.

CYPRINDÆ, *or the Carp Family*:

These fishes have feeble jaws and no teeth in the mouth, but instead a powerful dental apparatus in their pharynx. They are mostly fresh water inhabitants, subsisting chiefly on vegetable matters, and found in great numbers in all rivers, lakes, and ponds. Many of the tribe attain a large size, and their flesh is generally good, wholesome, and agreeable. The following species are the most common:—

Cyprinus Ruhita (*ruhi*, রুহিত).

This has a small mouth, short stout head, and reddish brown scales. It is one of the best Indian fishes. The ordinary length of the *ruhi* is about 3 feet.

Cyprinus Katla.—*Katla* (কাতলা মৎস্য).

It is known by its large head—proportioned to the body—a wide mouth, and pale bluish scales. It is a gregarious fish, and found swimming in shoals in open water, just below the surface. Also much prized.

Cyprinus Kalbasu.—*Kalbosh* (কালবোশ মৎস্য).

Has a small mouth, narrow muzzle, and black scales. It is a sweet, well-tasted fish, and very voracious.

Cyprinus Mirga.—*Mirgal* (মীরগেল মৎস্য).

It resembles the barbal, without its cirri at the mouth. It is generally found in the muddy bottoms of rivers and tanks, and has a muddy taste. Sometimes attains a length of from 5 to 6 feet.

CRUSTACEA:

Of the shell-fish, *Astacus Fluviatalis* (*Golda Chingri*) abounds in all the rivers. Vast quantities of these are caught in the inundated fields at the close of the rains, when they enter largely into the dietary of the people.

TANK-FISHES:

As I said before, many of the so-called river-fish are also found in the still waters of lakes, bheels, and tanks. The pure tank-fishes however, or those inhabiting solely stagnant waters, may be described as follows. As may be expected from their limited *habitat*, they are comparatively fewer in number than those living out in the open streams and the great deep.

Silurus Batrachus.—*Magur* (মাগুর মৎস্য).

This fish is about a foot long; has a large obtuse head; skin thick and black, shading to a light yellow in front; and the flesh reddish and tender. It has a delicate flavour, and is much sought after by the natives. Abounds in all still waters, especially in weedy, swampish places.

Silurus Pugentissimus.—*Singhee* (শিঙ্গী মৎস্য).

So called from a fearfully pungent sting it inflicts with its dorsal fin when incautiously handled. It resembles the magur in every respect, excepting that it is slenderly formed and fond of very muddy situations. It is not in much request.

Clupea Cultrata.—Chellá (চেল্লা মাছ).

See before. May be seen in shoals actively swimming in the surface of all tanks. It is a very greedy fish, and a most useful scavenger in the water where much bathing and washing is practised.

Cyprinus Putitoria.—Puntees (পুঁটী মৎস্য).

Two species are known : one about a couple of inches long, and the other often attaining a foot—the former being one of the most common and numerous of the tribe.
The *dancinnee* and *mourulla*, the two still smaller and more numerous species, also belong to this group.

Opheocephalus. Latta (লাটা মৎস্য).

This likewise includes two varieties, the *Latta* and *Soli ;* the one usually measuring about half a cubit, and the other often two cubits, and even longer. They are very solitary in their habits, and abound in all swampy places. Their flesh is not much esteemed.

Coius Cobojius and Trichopodus Colisa.—Coée and Khalisa (কই ও খলসে মৎস্য).

These belong to the order of *Pharynginæ laborynthiformis*, so called in consequence of their possessing a peculiar saculated structure in the pharynx, which can be filled with water, and by this means they are enabled to perform tolerably long migrations on land in search of a new *habitat*. They are to be found in greater or less abundance in all stagnant waters. The *coée* is a rich, delicious fish, and accordingly highly prized.

Zeus Oblongus—Chanda (চাঁদা মাছ).

A little roundish, flat, bony fish. Not much cared for.

Lacerta Scin Cus.—Balia (বেলিয়া মৎস্য).

A very common fish of the fresh water. It seldom reaches a foot. Not in great demand.

MURINÆ :

Two kinds of eels are met with—*bâin* and *punkál*, to be found everywhere in old, muddy bottomed waters. The bain, when fried or curried, is not a badly tasted fish.

Cragnon Vulgaris.

The common *chingree* of course abounds everywhere, and offers a cheap and ready source of animal nutriment to the poor people at all seasons. I need not say that this and the *golda chingree*, although commonly called fishes, are invertebrate animals, belonging to the articulated sub-division of the animal kingdom.

Whether there is any reason to suppose that the supply of fish is falling off.

The supply is not diminishing here. I can speak from a personal local experience of upwards of 15 years, and certainly during this time I have never noticed such falling off; on the other hand, the markets always appeared fully as well supplied, and sometimes as glutted as ever. Only last year I know the quantity of hilsa brought for sale so far exceeded the demand for days together, that actually basketsful had to be thrown away unsold at the close of the day's operation, as often obtains in other years.

Whether fish is largely consumed by the people of the district ; and if so, to what extent and by what classes.

I do not know whether it is from the abundance of fish, or other cause, the natives of this part of the country appear to be the most voracious fish-eaters that may be found anywhere. All classes consume it largely, and even many Vaishnavas and widows, who usually abstain from it elsewhere, where fish is scarce, eat it here. The exact quantity cannot be ascertained, but I may safely say that it forms a large part, or the bulk, of their animal element ; and in certain seasons, when fish is unusually numerous and abundant, the lower classes may be said to almost live on this diet for the time being.

What castes or classes of community consume fish.

During the hilsa season, which generally lasts from April to July, a large salting business is carried on on the banks of the Pudma at many points, in order to supply this fish to Calcutta and other distant markets. No other fish is so treated, and none smoked or dried. The abundance of oil which the hilsa contains, and which it gives out freely on frying in the process of cooking, is sometimes carefully collected and kept by the lower orders to cook their food with in other seasons, as well as for burning purposes.

Localities of the principal fisheries, and the class or castes employed in the industry.

The places where fish are taken in large numbers are the rivers *Pudma*, *Chandana*, *Madhumati*, and the *Cumar*, and the numerous lakes and jheels scattered over the district, especially towards the south. Fish are also caught largely from the surface of the country, generally while under inundation during the rains. The river fisheries, however, particularly those of the Pudma, are the most valuable, and constitute the chief source of supply. The industry is pursued by three classes or castes—viz. 1st, the jalliahs, literally men who ply the net, or professional fishermen (they are all Hindus) who catch the fish; and the 2nd and 3rd, dealers in the article, known respectively as *nickaries* and *karrals*; the former being Mahomedans, and the latter a separate caste of Hindus.

METHODS OF CATCHING FISH:

The following methods are employed:—

1. *By the Hand* (হাত ধরা):
This is only practicable in shallow waters and pools drying up.

2. *By rod and line* (ছীপ, সুতা).
This is extensively practised by all classes.

3. *By line and reel* (হাতসুতা).
The reel is usually a piece of hollow bamboo of the proper size fitted to a wooden axle or centre-piece. (See specimen.)

4. *By rod, line, and spear* (ছীপ এবং বড়শী).
A bait is used of a small live fish hooked through the dorsal fin and kept playing on the surface of the water as a decoy, and any large fish attracted to it is at once despatched with the spear, held in the angler's right hand.

5. *By spear alone* (কেবল বড়শী).
Several kinds of spears are in use, and they consist either of a single piece throughout, or of three or more prongs tied in a bundle. Some spears are straight, and some hooked. Of the former, some are simply pointed sticks of bamboo, and some tipped with iron; but the latter are all iron weapons, distinguished as konch, jote, and tanta.

6. *By baskets*
Such as *palo* (পলো) and *honcha* (হোচা). (See specimens.)

7. *By various traps.*
All made of bamboo. Of these the commonest kinds are—(1) *khadum* (খাদম), (2) *bannay* (বাণা), (3) *arinday* (আরিন্দা), (4) *chára* (চারা), (5) *ráváne* (রাভানী), (6) *tupa* (টুপা), (7) *duar* (দোয়ার), (8) *bonchna* (বোচনে), (9) *gunsi* (গুনশী), (10) *paran* (পারন), (11) *chaye* (চাই), (12) *Nye* (নই), and (13) *phansi* (ফাঁসী). (See specimens.)

8. *By what is called a bând* (বান্দ).
This is done by raising a mud embankment on either side of a khal or nulla, so as to limit the current to a narrow midspace, which is then closely staked with bamboo, or a strong wicker work or paling of the same material sufficiently high to prevent the fish from jumping over; but they can easily leap over the embankments at the sides where pits are dug before and behind to receive them, when they are at once captured.

By Net:

These are of various kinds, according to the sort of fish to be caught—large or small, the locality of fishery, whether streams or still waters, or the water is shallow or deep. The following are the most common.

1. *Mohi jal* (মহী জাল).
This is a kind of trawl net dragged in deep water along the bottom by the fishing boats, and may be used for all sizes of fish. The usual size is about 25 feet long at the upper, and 35 feet at the lower side, and 15 feet deep.

2. *Kona jal* (কোণা জাল).
This is a long, funnel-shaped net, with a valvular arrangement at the mouth, or wide end, and dragged along by boats as the last. It is usually from 500 to 600 feet long.

3. *Bayér jal* (বেড় জাল).
This is a deep seine net.

4. *Chhandi jal* (ছাঁদী জাল).

This is also a seine net, but not very deep, nor buoyed up by floats to the surface. Used for all small fish.

5. *Dora Chhandi* (দোড়া ছাঁদী).

This is like a chhandi, but with thicker and wider meshes, intended for large hilsa and other large fish. All these seine nets could be extended to several hundred feet by joining with others.

6. *Kheppla jal* (খেপলা জাল).

This is a circular net, with small weights attached to the circumference and shot on the water by the hand. It is used for all kinds of fish. It is pulled up by a string tied to the centre outside.

7. *Khara jal* (খারা জাল).

This is a triangular form of net, of which the broad end is dipped in the water and raised with a bamboo pole.

8. *Bhesál jal* (ভেসাল জাল).

Like the above, but it is dragged by a boat.

9. *Dhurma jal* (ধর্ম্ম জাল).

This is a square jal with a cross arched frame over it, and the whole pulled up now and then with a pole.

10. *Sánghá jal* (সাঙ্গা জাল).

This is a drift net, with the borders armed with a bamboo rib acting like jaws and closing by a drop or weight at the pleasure of the fisherman. It is dragged along the bottom, and used also for hilsa fishing.

11. *Khorki jal* (খোড়কী জাল).

Like the above, but not dragged along the bottom.

12. *Chak jal* (চাক জাল).

Is a circular hand-net with a bamboo frame all round. It is dragged with the hand in shallow water.

13. *Cháp jal* (চাপ জাল).

It is a cylindrical hand net for shallow water fishing.

14. *Hoúcha jal* (হোচা জাল).

Is a triangular hand jal, used as above.

15. *Souta jal* (সোতা জাল).

This is a funnel-shaped jal, which, as the name implies, is set with stakes in a place where there is a current; the wide end being directed upstream.

Fish are eaten boiled, roasted on fire, fried, stewed, and made into jhol, ambol, and curries. See under Native Cooking.

II.—Poultry, Game, and Butcher's Meat.

This subject will be briefly noticed under the following heads:—

Gallinaciæ, or the poultry tribe.

The common domestic fowl, *Gallus domesticus*, is largely reared in the district by the Muhammadans, who constitute more than three-fifths of the population, both for local consumption as well as for export to Calcutta. It is for the most part the women who attend to the management of the poultry yard. No household of a Muhammadan may be said to be complete without its pair or pairs of living hens with a large cock or two, and generally a fair stock of the intermediate breed. In many houses a small separate hut, thickly staked with long bamboo pegs outside to prevent depredations from jackals and other wild animals, is specially provided for the accommodation of the poultry. In others, however, where no such provision is made, the poultry either shares the same room with its human inmates, or it may find shelter in the cow-shed. They are let go all day, and it is of course an understood thing that they must pick up their own food as best they may from what they can get about the house, unless it be the young brood or the hen sitting on the egg, when some dhan or other suitable food has to be found. Most of the poultry thus reared is intended for the market. A few stray quails are occasionally seen. No other members of the tribe inhabit the district.

Columbidæ.

The ordinary black pigeon, *Columba livia, Pyara, kalla cabutar*, occurs sparingly, and a few are domesticated for sale. Doves abound in all parts of the district in the wild state.

Palmipidæ.

The common duck and goose are not extensively reared, although their flesh is not the less relished, especially among the Hindus, who do not use other poultry. They, however abound in great variety in a wild state in the district, and in the winter large numbers are caught in nets for sale in the local markets. The ordinary goose net is a light wide meshed net, 20 to 40 feet long and 10 to 12 feet broad, set at dusk, stretched between two or more long poles of bamboo at a spot, generally a shallow piece of water on the side of the river, where the geese are known to resort for the night from their different feeding grounds. By and by, when it is very dark and everything is hushed, at a preconcerted signal, tremendous shouts are raised from all sides excepting from that where the net is, the noise gradually increasing until at last the startled flock take to flight, and in doing so are immediately entangled in the net spread for them.

Chelonida—or turtles, bakrals (বাকরেল).

Two or three species inhabit the Ganges, but they are never eaten.

Emydæ.

Fresh water or mud turtles. Several varieties are met with in the fresh waters. Of these, however, only one, called the dur, seems alone to be much prized. The Muhammadans appear to have a strange antipathy to the flesh of these amphibians.

Testudinæ—land tortoises, katchhabs (কচ্ছিম).

These are not uncommon, but seldom sought after for food. The Bunoohs are, I believe, the only people who eat them.

Suidæ.

A piggery is to be seen here and there, kept by the Chamar caste, and the Bunoahs sometimes hunt the wild pig, which abounds in the villages. They are the only pork consumers in the district.

Ruminantia.

This tribe supplies beef, mutton, and the goat's flesh, but as they constitute rather a costly kind of food, they are seldom resorted to by the working classes. A Muhammadan would feed upon these indiscriminately, but the Hindu, for religious scruples, is obliged to confine his taste between the flesh of the sheep and goat only; even these he dare not use unless the animals are previously sacrificed to some god or goddess. The consequence of the restriction is, that he can seldom gratify his appetite with the flesh of the only ruminantia he is permitted to eat. The degenerate Bengal varieties of the ruminantia under notice are too well known to require further description in a report like this. For the ordinary dishes of meat used both by Hindus and Muhammadans, see further on—under Native Cookery.

III.—Dairy Produce.

From milk the following preparations are derived:—*Butter, ghee, butter-milk, doye, chhanna, cream, mallaye, kheer, khirsa, pat khirsa, and pheni khirsa.*

Butter (*makhan, noni*).

It is prepared in two ways, of which the most commonly pursued by the *gowallas* (milk-sellers) is as follows:—It consists in first boiling the milk to a certain consistence (not at all thick), and when perfectly cool, agitating it by a bamboo churn (see specimen) till the butter rises to the surface, when it is skimmed off and washed in cool clean river or spring water to be ready for use. The second process is the same as the last, but before churning the milk is converted by some acid into what is called *doye*. A portion of sour butter-milk from a previous fomentation is often used for this purpose. The operation of churning should be very slowly performed in the hot weather, otherwise the butter will be too loose and soft; on the contrary, in the winter the quicker it is done the better, and no addition of cold water is needed. The ordinary price of butter is a rupee per seer, or shilling a pound.

Ghee.

This is simply the butter in the melted state by heat. Butter in this state will keep many months without turning rancid, and it is on this account that ghee is so much preferred in all hot climates. Ghee sells at the rate of a seer to 18 chittacks per rupee.

Skimmed milk.

This is the residue of the churning according to the first process, and contains all the ingredients of the milk minus its butter. It is either converted into an inferior variety of doye, much used as a cooling, agreeable adjunct to other food, or eaten made into a *kheer* with boiled rice.

Butter-milk (*ghole or matta,* ঘোল বা মাঠা).

It is the remains of the second process of churning, and, excepting that it is slightly acid, equally as good and nutritive as the skimmed milk.

Doye (দই).

Properly speaking it is simply milk which has been curdled, or has undergone lactic fermentation by some acid, often a portion of the same substance from a former operation. It differs little in fact from bonny clabber, or slip, made by turning milk with rennet, which is so much relished in Ireland and other countries.

Chhanna (ছানা).

This is prepared by coagulating hot unskimmed milk by pouring a little acid of some sort, and afterwards separating the coagulum thus formed by pressure through a bag of stout linen or cotton cloth. It contains all the caseine and oily portion of the milk, the fluid left behind being whey consisting of its other constituents. *Chhanna* is in fact nothing more or less than a superior kind of cheese, as the Cheshire cheese, in its fresh state. It constitutes a delicious article of food when sweetened. For preparations of *chhanna*, see Sweetmeats.

Cream (*sar*, সর).

The cream of this country is the thick coagulated layer, consisting chiefly of caseine and butter, formed on the surface of milk which has been heated in an open vessel for some time and then allowed to stand for a while to cool.

Mallaye (মালাই).

Is the thick cream prepared as above, previously sweetened by the addition of some sugar. A rich kind of *doye* made from concentrated milk is also sometimes known as *mallaye*.

Kheer (ক্ষীর).

This is inspissated milk, or milk deprived of its aqueous portion by slow heat. For preparations of *kheer*, see Sweetmeats.

Khirsa (ক্ষীরসা).

Prepared by continuing to simmer the milk on a slow fire, with the addition of a small quantity of flour or rice meal till it assumes a rich brown color and the consistence of custard, when it is removed and put by for use.

Pheni khirsa (ফেনী ক্ষীরসা).

When the above is prepared with a little sugar.

Pat khirsa (পাতক্ষীরসা).

Is made by evaporating the milk on a brisk fire with the addition of a little salt, and when freed from all aqueous particles, it is poured out on plantain leaves and allowed to assume a solid form by the action of cold air.

Cows' milk is the only one procurable in the district, and sells from 10 to 16 seers the rupee, according to season.

IV.—Honey.

See specimens of comb, honey, and bee. The honey of the district is very inferior, and some sorts have a bitterish taste.

V.—Larvæ.

These are never eaten.

VI.—VEGETABLE FOOD.

This is a most numerous and important division of aliments, and may, for convenience and with some approach to a sort of scientific arrangement, be best treated in the following order in substitute of the classification adopted by the Committee for the International Exhibition of 1873:—

1. Amylaceous aliments, or those aliments having a superabundance of starch in their composition, such as rice, wheat, barley, potato, mankachu, &c.
2. Amylo-albuminous or Amylo-liguminous aliments, or those having a nitrogenized principle resembling albumen in addition to much starch in their composition, such as the different pulses, beans, &c.
3. Oleaginous aliments, or those holding an excess of oil in their constitution, such as the various oil-seeds.
4. Saccharine aliments, as the date and cane, gur and sugar, the many sweet fruits, &c.
5. Mucilaginous aliments, or aliments in which mucilage abounds, for instance the different pot-herbs or oleracea, and other succulent vegetables.

6. ACIDULOUS ALIMENTS, as the sorrel and all sour and acescent vegetable products used as food.

7. CONDIMENTARY ALIMENTS, as the class of spices.

8. BITTER OR PICROUS ALIMENTS, such as the various bitter substances utilized by the natives in their ordinary dietary.

AMYLACEOUS ALIMENTS.

To this group belong rice, wheat, barley, millets, potato—common and sweet, yams, mankachu, ol, and green plantains.

Cerealia.—Rice, wheat, barley, maize, millet.

The cereals grown in the district are wheat, rice, barley, maize, and millet. It would be impossible to give a detailed account of each of these grains in a report like this, nor is it necessary that we should do so. Wheat, barley, maize, and millet, although not entirely unknown, are sparingly used in the district. Barley again, though to some extent grown, is not an article of general or ordinary consumption. Two or three varieties of millet are also raised, but they are only consumed by the lower classes in seasons of scarcity, when their rice crops fail, as a cheap substitute for that common resource of life. Maize is only seen in the gardens of Europeans. Millet is sown together with paddy in the same fields, and reaped about the same time. Wheat and barley are sown in November and harvested in February.

Species of paddy, with varieties, when sown and gathered, kind of soil, geographical distribution, process of cultivation, &c.

Rice or paddy is more commonly distinguished as aush and amon, according as it is the early or late crop; but there are two other crops, the boro and roa, which are perhaps not generally known.

Aush and amon are generally sown together in the same fields during the early rains in March and April, but never later than the 10th of May in places that are annually flooded. They have the remarkable property of growing rapidly with the rise of water, so that the stem or colm sometimes acquires the extraordinary length of 15 feet or more, according to the depth of water in places where it grows. The aush crops being reaped first in June and July, the pruning which the amon thereby necessarily undergoes, instead of doing any injury to, rather improves that crop, as the shoots become more numerous and stronger after this cropping. It should be here stated that although these fields are very carefully weeded both before and during the rains, it is impossible to rid them of a species of wild grass which ripens almost at the same time with the aush; hence the aush paddy is seldom free from the seeds of this grass: and this is so invariably the case, that the presence of these wild seeds is generally regarded as the best test of an aush crop, or the rice of that name. The amon rice, which is gathered later, and sometimes also grown by itself in separate and distinct fields, is of course always free from this extraneous mixture. The amon crop is generally reaped in October and November, but there is an early species, *asheene*, which is harvested in Asheen (September). In the same way one variety of aush, called *jolee*, is cut by the end of Bysack or early part of Joyt (May). The other two kinds of rice are cultivated in a different way altogether; they are rice grown by transplantation. The boro is planted in the low beds of bheels and swamps, borders of shallow receding rivers, as the lowest parts of *churs*, *koals*, and *lapechurs*, as they are locally called. The sowing in nurseries from which the plant is obtained is done in Kartick and Aghrahun, it is thence removed to places of final growth in Pous and Magh. In some places irrigation to a certain extent is found necessary, and is had recourse to. The crop is gathered in Bysack and Joyt. The roa is grown in high lands, which are seldom or never submerged during the rains. The plants are raised in beds in Joyt, and thence transplanted in Ashar. Aghrahun is the time of reaping this as well as the amon. All the finer varieties of rice are either obtained from the roa or the amon, seldom from boro, but never from the aush crop. Besides the one defect of the aush rice, viz. its admixture with grass seeds, already pointed out, there are others which render it a very inferior and an undesirable article of food. The grain is coarse, never wholly free from a layer of reddish or brownish colouring matter internally when husked, has a tendency to run together while boiling, especially when new, and scarcely possesses any taste at all. Amon, although generally also coarse grained, is preferred to it, being free from these objections and more agreeable to the palate. Boro is generally coarse, heavy, and less sweet than amon, but superior in every respect to aush. All the superior sorts of rice, as I have already observed, are derived from the roa crop, which, although cultivated differently, may be regarded as another variety of amon, while boro in the same sense may be looked upon as only an inferior sort of aush. The subjoined table will show the varieties, with the general characters of each of these four species of paddy—aush, amon, boro, and roa, grown in the district.

SPECIES.

Amón Dhan.

Long-grained.

Dudráj	...	দুদরাজ।	Guathubi	...	গুয়াথুবি।
Mandráj	...	মান্দ্রাজ।	Nothasail	...	নোথাশাইল।
Bansiraj	...	বাঁশিরাজ।	Gorbágha	...	গোরবাঘা।
Pankaich	...	পানকাইচ।	Hijaldighá	...	হিজলদিঘা।
Asvinaboyera	...	অশ্বিনাবয়েরা।	Kaladighá	...	কালাদিঘা।
Dudsar	...	দুদশ্বর।	Hanúmanjatá	...	হনুমানজটা।
Bhojankappúr	...	ভোজনকর্পূর।	Madhabjata	...	মাধবজটা।
Jhingasail	...	ঝিঙ্গাশাইল।	Nalchá	...	নলচা।
Pittiráj	...	পিত্তীরাজ।	Dalkachú	...	দলকচু।
Gazibhog	...	গাজিভোগ।	Múktahar	...	মুক্তাহার।
Kartiksail	...	কার্ত্তিকশাইল।	Dudbhanní	...	দুদভন্নী।
Parwanámuktá	...	পরওনামুক্তা।	Digha	...	দিঘা।
Bagha	...	বাঘা।	Jalungee	...	জলঙ্গি।
Manibhóg	...	মনীভোগ।	Shonadigha	...	শোনাদিঘা।
Podamallik	...	পোড়ামল্লীক।	Lepa	...	লেপা।
Sitanabbai	...	সিতানব্বেই।	Bhogalashkar	...	ভোগলস্কর।
Jhul	...	ঝুল।	Gilámatiá	...	গিলামাটিয়া।
Lohachud	...	লোহাচুড়।			

Short-grained.

Lakhisalá	...	লক্ষ্মীসলা।	Kanakchúr	...	কণকচুর।
Narikelbadha	...	নারিকেলবাধা।	Khaiámurki	...	খৈয়ামুড়কী।

Middle-sized.

Mahishkayí	...	মহীশকাই।	Bagráil	...	বাগরাইল।
Madhúsail	...	মধূশাইল।	Kachkalam	...	কাচকলম।
Sindurkaita	...	সিন্দুরকৈটা।	Kalabyera	...	কালাবয়েরা।
Jamaibhóg	...	জামাইভোগ।	Lonábethonia	...	লোনাবেথনিয়া।
Makomra	...	মাকোমরা।	Rangilalach	...	রঙ্গিললচ।

Aush.

Long-grained.

Kalábhog	...	কলাভোগ।	Pazrá	...	পাজরা।
Sasifúl	...	শশীফুল।	Kumraíl	...	কুমড়াইল।
Malliká	...	মল্লিকা।	Komraíl	...	কোমড়াইল।
Jamura	...	জামুরা।	Shado	...	শদো।
Sindurkaita	...	সিন্দুরকৈটা।	Piprail	...	পিপরাইল।
Pakhiraj	...	পক্ষীরাজ।	Bailabotór	...	বাইলাবতোর।
Manickmukta	...	মাণিকমুক্তা।	Kalamandras	...	কালামান্দ্রাজ।
Kapua	...	কপুয়া।			

Short-grained.

Piprábalám	...	পিপড়াবালাম।	Dunargura	...	দুনারগুড়া।
Binnafúl	...	বিন্নাফুল।	Kalatóp	...	কলাতোপ।
Sultanchapá	...	সুলতানচাপা।	Hingul	...	হিঙ্গুইল।
Soudamini	...	সৌদামিনী।			

Middle-sized.

Koutukmani	...	কৌতুকমণি।	Chintamani	...	চিন্তামণি।
Dudmani	...	দুদ্‌মণি।	Samudraphena	...	সমুদ্রফেন।
Chhatrabog	...	ছত্রভোগ।	Porabinna	...	পোড়াবিন্ন।
Karpur	...	কর্পুর।	Suryamni	...	সূর্য্যমণি।
Bonaram	...	বোনারাম।	Sonakakai	...	সোনাকাকই।
Lohashala	...	লোহাশলা।	Lukhikajal	...	লক্ষ্মীকাজল।
Kabirmallick	...	কবীরমল্লিক।	Kochmangal	...	কোচমঙ্গল।
Akasmani	...	আকাশমণি।	Bailám	...	বৈলাম।
Dudsail	...	দুধশাইল।	Ghikai	...	ঘিকই।

BORO.

Long-grained.

Parangi	...	পরাঙ্গি।	Kaijuri	...	কইজুড়ি।
Kedarchak	...	কেদারচাক।	Sethe	...	সেঠে।
Garesvar	...	গরেশ্বর।			

ROA.

Long-grained.

Disi Rayada ... দিশি রায়দা।

Process of reaping, rotation of crops, cost of cultivation, statistics of area covered by each crop, amount of produce and export, cost of production at various times of the year and in various marts.

All the rice sown in the high lands and in shallow water, when ripe, is cut close to the ground, so as to leave as little stubble as possible, and to save all the straw for cattle; but in deep water only the tops with the ears are cut off, the stems (pal, পল) being afterwards collected, when the fields are again dry, principally for fuel. No rotation is observed, excepting that in the winter a suitable pulse crop, as maskalai, mug, khesari, or pea, and sometimes a crop of mustard, is generally raised in the same fields, to be shortly succeeded by paddy again as the rains fall. I regret, owing to the very short time allowed, the statistical information required under the remaining heads cannot be supplied. I believe little rice is exported from the district.

Mode of preparing food from the grain: various preparations of food used.

Now, as to the manner of separating the grains from the husk or outer hard covering, the operation is so simple and so generally known, that it needs no detailed description. It is generally done either by a rude instrument, called dhenki or pedal, or by a sort of wooden mortar and pestle, known under the name of ukli. The dhenki works in fact on the principle of a pestle and mortar,—the difference being that in the dhenki the pestle is angular, and placed unequally as a balance on a pivot to increase power, the long end of the balance being towards the mortar, which is a wooden cavity fixed in the ground or floor. The prepared rice is distinguished into either the atab or siddha, according to the process followed preliminary to the separation of its outer covering, or tush, as it is called. The atab, or more properly speaking atap (sun-dried), is obtained from the paddy exposed to the sun before husking in order to loosen the shell more easily from the incased grain. The siddha owes its name to the process of previous steeping and roasting in water which it undergoes for the same purpose. This difference in preparation is supposed to impart additional qualities to the grain. The atab is a lighter grain, sweeter to the taste, and is said to be more digestible; but it is difficult to obtain it entire, and the percentage of loss by *khud* and *kura* (broken rice and dust of rice) in husking is very large. The siddha or ushna, on the other hand, is a heavy and compact grain, and comparatively more difficult of digestion. Again, it takes more time in boiling, and separates more freely from boiling. The finer sorts of atab are known as gobind bhog, cheeni sakkar, and kalijira, and the commoner kinds of siddha or ushna, as balam and chaplas. All the fine rice, as a general rule, is sold off in the bazar by the ryots or cultivators,—not only as fetching high prices wherewith to provide for his other comforts, but as unsuitable for home consumption. It is a well-known fact that the laboring classes would not use them if they find them equally cheap with the other kinds. The servants in the native families in the mofussil, who are fed at their masters' board, would prefer a dish of coarse rice to one of a superior variety, of which latter they say they would require twice the usual

number of meals. From the above it will appear that the agricultural and laboring classes consume the greater part of the coarse rice raised in the country. The aush crop, as coming in at a time when the ryots' previous store of provisions is nearly exhausted, is for the most part reserved for home consumption; consequently the demand for this rice, except among laborers who have no cultivation of their own is usually much restricted at the market. There are some varieties of aush which, having a strong resemblance to the roa or amon crop, are sometimes sold as such. Turning our attention now from the production and manufacture to its mode of consumption, the subject becomes more complicated and the treatment more difficult. Although boiled rice is the general and the more ordinary form of using this alimentary substance, this is not however the only one in which it is consumed. The other most common forms are *khai, muri, chira, chal bhaja, chhatu, and various cakes and pastries* too numerous to describe. Reduced to powder, it is also employed not as an insignificant item in native confectionery. See some of these under 'Sweetmeats,' further on. All these substances, if treated at length, would supply the subject-matter of a volume. A few words regarding each will suffice for the purposes of the present report.

Khai (খই).

Khai is obtained from paddy, by roasting or torrefying it on heated sand. The sudden exposure to heat so distends the grain as to make it burst through its outer covering with a loud crepitation; it is then rubbed on a sieve with the hand to remove the fragments of broken husk. It is a very light article of food, and accordingly prescribed by native physicians as a low diet, both in its ordinary form as well as that of a *monda*, as it is called, made by boiling it to the consistence of a pulp in water; a little sugar and milk are often added. Khai enters in the composition of a great many native sweetmeats. Rice is not the only grain from which this substance is prepared. The Indian-corn, seeds of several species of water-lily, and other light farinaceous seeds, may be similarly treated, and also a kind of wild paddy called bani dhan, which is extensively consumed in this form.

Muri (মুড়ী).

This is another very light preparation of rice in its parched form, and tastes, when fresh and properly made, not unlike biscuit It differs from khai in the manner of its preparation, taste, and quality. With regard to the first, while khai is prepared from paddy by simply exposing it to the action of heat through the medium of sand over a hearth, muri is obtained by a more complicated process altogether. First of all, particular care is necessary in boiling the paddy from which the rice for this purpose is obtained. It has to be boiled twice, and the second time more completely than for ordinary siddha rice, so that the grain partly protrudes through the husk; it is then dried by exposure to the sun before husking. The effect of this process is to harden the grain, which is distinguished from common rice by its darker colour and harder texture. It is now roasted on a fire in an open earthen vessel, stirring it well, with the addition of a little solution of salt and water from time to time. While this is doing, in another and much larger vessel sand is heated. As soon as they have absorbed sufficient heat, the rice is thrown in handfuls at a time in the vessel containing sand and shaken briskly with a bundle of thin sticks for a minute or two, when the heated grains swell and leap up like electrified beads. The muri, thus prepared, is then separated by allowing the sand to precipitate through a perforated earthen vessel to a receiver of the same material. *Muri* is largely used as a jalpan, or tiffin, and also made into sweetmeats.

Chira (চিড়ে).

This is another form in which rice is consumed. It is made thus. The paddy, kept steeped in water for a time, two or three days, is removed to another vessel and partially roasted on fire; it is then beaten flat and separated from the chaff by that useful rude native instrument the dhenki already described. The substance thus obtained is tough and difficult to masticate, but it absorbs water greadily, and when thus soaked, it is difficult to distinguish it from boiled rice, which it also resembles somewhat in taste. If natives of Bengal were to betake themselves to a sea-faring life, this substance would answer admirably all the purposes of sea biscuits. It can be kept wholesome for any length of time with ordinary care, and requires no additional preparation, except soaking in water, to render it at once fit for use. Native pessengers, when proceeding from one place to another, whether by land or water, and when to obtain a meal of boiled rice is not only inconvenient, but attended with much loss of time, will always prefer chira to anything else: nor are the facilities for obtaining it the less, for by the side of the most lonesome roads or river of any importance—wherever, in short, there exists a mudi's shop of any sort, if nothing else is to be had, chira and its attendant luminaries, gur, salt, tamarind, and sometimes dahi and plantains, are sure to be procured. Another preparation of the same article is by parching it on a pan of hot sand, called *chira bhaja*, which is also extensively used as a jalpan, and likewise as an ingredient of many cakes and comfits. A

kanji is also prepared from this substance, much used as a light, cooling, and nourishing drink for the sick by native physicians.

Chal bhaja (চাল ভাজা).

It is simply parched rice, extensively made use of as a cheap and extempore jalpan in native families, especially by the women, rubbed with a little mustard-oil and salt, and sometimes bits of raw chillies are eaten with it by way of an additional relish.

Chhatu (ছাতু).

These are made by reducing to powder any parched substance or amylaceous grain freshly fried, such as *chal bhaja*, *muri*, *khai*, *chira bhaja*, fried barley, &c. The best is that prepared from barley, and this is the only way, in fact, the latter grain is commonly consumed in Lower Bengal. *Chhatus* are also obtained from grains, peas, and other pulses, but these are chiefly used in the preparation of sweetmeats, an account of which will be found elsewhere.

Cakes—Pithas (পিঠে).

Most of the native cakes are compound preparations, having for their base flour or rice meal with more or less of sugar and other substances. The simple cakes are few; the rest are sweetmeats, which see.

Boiled rice—Bhat (ভাত).

Its preparation is well known. The secret of the process consists in this, that it should be so boiled that the whole grain will, so to speak, effloresce or become uniformly soft, so that there may be no central hardness or *maz*, as it is called. Old siddha rice effloresces better, and absorbs more water in boiling than new rice, which boils quicker and gives more *phan*, rice kanji. Kanji is generally given away to cows. The relative increase in bulk by boiling of old and new rice on an average is from 4 to 14 of the former and 4 to 12 of the latter; that is to say, if (say) 4 chittacks of either kind were boiled, the old will weigh, when the process is completed, 14 chittacks, and the new will give 12 chittacks. Old rice is always the most wholesome of the two. Boiled rice is consumed either when quite fresh, *garam bhat*, or more or less stale, *thanda* or *basi bhat*. The latter again is used in three forms, viz. *karkara* (*cold dry rice*), *parishti* or *poriste* (*cold freshly steeped rice*), and *panta bhat* (the same steeped in water a little longer, so as to acquire a slight acid taste). The *karkara* is usually the residue of the evening meal used in the morning; it can be only preserved wholesome in the cold season. The same rice, in order to be kept fit for use in other weathers, has to be steeped in cold water. The popular distinction between the two forms of steeped rice is that parishti is the rice cooked in the morning and kept seasoned in water for consumption in the evening; panta bhat, on the other hand, is rice boiled in the evening and preserved in the same way for morning breakfast. The distinction, however, is really one of kind rather than of degree. If the rice has been kept steeped in water for a short time, say not more than six hours, and is eaten when the saccharine matter is being formed in the rice by the decomposition of its starch, it is called parisht; on the other hand, when it has been longer in water, and when, after the formation of the greatest quantity of sugar, the process of fermentation has commenced, as is evinced by the slightly acescent taste of the rice, it is the panta bhat. The water of the *panta bhat*, which is pleasantly acid, and forms a cooling agreeable drink, is known under the name of amani. Both these kinds of rice are very extensively consumed during the hot season by the rich as well as the poor as a cooling and agreeable diet, and not unfrequently ordered by the native kabiraz as a wholesome and soothing article of food to the sick laboring under diseases of the bowels.

It is not easy to state precisely the quantity of rice consumed by any one individual consecutively day by day or week by week for any stated period of life, as it varies greatly according to circumstances, such as age, state of health, position, occupation of the party, &c. The seasons of the year also to some extent affect the quantity of rice consumed. In the spring and summer, when an abundant supply of fruit is obtained, the ordinary meals are reduced both in number and quantity. Again, the work of the agriculturist is not uniform throughout the year. During the rains, except occasional visits paid to his fields for weeding and reaping the *aush* crop, he leads a comparatively easy life, unless he employs himself or rather hires himself out for other labor, for instance as a boatman or common cooly. This recess from labor also influences the consumption of food. Taking all these circumstances into consideration, I do not think we would err greatly if we estimate the average quantity of rice consumed by an adult person of the laboring class at 14 chittacks daily, and that of one of a higher sphere of life at between 10 and 12 chittacks, a chittack being nearly equivalent to two ounces Avoirdupois in English weight.

The following may be said to be about the average quantity of food consumed daily by a middling class person, as well as by one of the *chasa* class in the district:—

Midling Class.

Rice	12	chittacks.
Dal	2	,,
Fish	2	,,
Vegetables (including fruit)	2	,,
Milk	4	,,
Sugar or gur	1	chittack.
Oil	½	,,
Salt	¼	,,
Spice	¼	,,
Jalpan	1	,,
Total seer ...	1	8¾

Ryot Class.

Rice	14	chittacks.	
Dal	1	chittack.	
Fish	1	,,	
Vegetables	3	chittacks.	
Sugar or gur	½	chittack,	occasionally.
Milk	2	chittacks,	,,
Oil	¼	chittack,	,,
Salt	¼	,,	
Spice	¼	,,	occasionally
Jalpan	1	,,	
Total seer ...	1	4¾	exclusive of *jalpan*.

Potato (*Solanum tuberosum, gôl alu*).

Not much grown in the district, but may be always obtained in the bazar, imported chiefly from Dacca. The tubers are eaten boiled, roasted on fire, fried, and also cut up and cooked as an ingredient in many native curries and dishes. What they call the *bhate* of potato is a delicious addition to a native meal. It is made by mashing up boiled potato and mixing it with as much fresh mustard-oil as will give the mash an agreeable pungency. Mustard powder mixed with sweet-oil may be used as a substitute for the fresh mustard-oil.

Sweet potato (*Convolvulus batatus, sukarkund, lal alu, mitalu*).

It is the long, tuberous, spindle-shaped, red, fleshy, underground stem of the plant, of a sweetish taste, and has a peculiar pleasant flavour. The plant is usually multiplied from cuttings of the trailing stem, which are inserted in ridges in May and June, and tubers are ripe by the beginning of the cold season, eaten like ordinary potato, and also often raw. The young shoots are sometimes used as a *ság*.

Yams (*Dioscorea globosa and rubella, chupri and guran alu*).

Only two varieties of yams are met with—one long and cylindrical, the other of a round form, and both occasionally employed for culinary purposes. They are fleshy and farinaceous, and may be used as excellent substitutes for potato towards the close of the rains, when they come to perfection, and the latter vegetable is scarce.

Mankachu.

This is the well-known large, tender farinaceous *Rhizome* of *Arum Indicum*, which is always in great request among all classes of the people, and eaten either as a *bhate*, seasoned with salt and mustard-oil, or curried or stewed with other culinary substances. It is both nutritive and wholesome when cooked. A kind of *palo* or white powder is prepared from the dried rhizome by native physicians, called *man manda*, said to possess great curative powers in cases of general dropsy when administered dietetically.

Ol (*Arum campanulatum*).

The large fleshy globular underground stem of this plant is also now and then used for food. It consists chiefly of starch, gum, water, coloring matter, and extractive, with a peculiar acrid principle, which more or less pervades all the plants of the *Arum* family. This principle, however, is easily dissipated by heat. *Ol* is generally eaten cooked in some acid. The *bhate* of *ol*, seasoned with ground mustard seed and salt, is not an unpleasant dish. A kind of arrowroot might be made of the Indian *ol* by crushing and repeated washing, as in preparing the genuine article of that name.

Green plantain (*Musa sapienta, kâtchkâllâ*).

The different varieties of *musa* yield an unlimited supply of excellent farinaceous fruits, which in their green state, especially the variety called *kâtchkâllâ*, are extensively employed as a part of the general dietary of the natives. They abound in starch and mucilage, and when stewed, fried, or boiled, are both wholesome and nourishing. Unlike other vegetables, they are to be found all the year round. They prefer a newly cleared loose soil, and thrive best when with few suckers at some distance apart.

Millets (*Panicum mileacium and panicum italicum*).

They are grown together in the same fields with paddy to some extent in the north-western part of the district. (See specimens.)

Saluk (*Nyphœa lotus*).

The underground root stalk of this water-lilly is occasionally supplemented as food by the lower classes, and sometimes by the native physician as a light diet for the sick.

Arrowroot (*Maranta arimdinacea*).

Sparingly cultivated, although grows well in garden lands. Mode of preparation is too well known to require description. The farina sent as a specimen was prepared from the plants in the Civil Surgeon's garden.

Paniphal (পানি ফল, *Trapa bicornis*).

Very common in tanks, and a very common weed in all the jheels in the south, but little used by the people excepting by boys. The roots contain a large quantity of wholesome farina, and may be rendered extensively subservient as food. May be eaten raw or roasted or boiled.

AMYLO-ALBUMINOUS, OR LIGUMINOUS ALIMENTS, CORRESPONDING TO THE CLASS OF PULSES.

As a class, they are equally in as much demand by the people as the cereal grains; and owing to the albumen or caseine they contain, they are perhaps at the same time more nutritive. The pulses, however, although so rich in nutritive material, have this drawback, that they are not easy of digestion: hence they could never be employed as a staple article of food or staff of life. Under this class may be mentioned the beans, peas, *but* or gram, and the lentils.

Beans (*makhan seem, canavalia gladiata*).

This is a perennial twiner with a large flat, sword-shaped pod from 6 inches to a foot long and about an inch broad, and many brownish seeds, sown solitarily under trees, which it climbs in the course of its growth. When tender, it is as good as any French bean.

Barbatti—Dolechos sinensis.

This is not an uncommon vegetable. Grown in the rains, with long, round, slender pods, which, when young, is by no means an undesirable addition to the table. Eaten either boiled or curried.

Ordinary beans or shims. Lablab.

Three varieties of these beans are commonly met with, viz. one with flat pods, from 2 to 4 inches long and ½ an inch broad; one round and inflated, color blackish green; and one as the last, but the pods are blackish purple, called respectively, *sada sim, kala sim,* and *lal sim.* They are all sown during the rainy season, but flower and pod in the cold weather, generally in gardens near trees or huts or entrances of native houses. In the green state the pods are boiled, fried, stewed, and curried. The ripe seeds are occasionally used as dal, but in this form they are not wholesome.

Peas—Pisum sativum, matar, chhoto matar, pyara matar.

The variety of pea with which the people of the district are most familiar, and which they cultivate extensively in the cold season, sown broadcast in fields lightly ploughed just released from the paddy crops as an article of diet, is what they call also *dési matar*, a dwarf species of the common pea. The grains are hard, and look very much like common duck shot, and in fact they are actually sometimes employed as shot. When fried over hot sand (fut karai), matar serves as an excellent chebbana or native substitute for biscuits, and when boiled, occasionally forms a meal by itself, in lieu of rice, to the needy labourer. It is, however, chiefly consumed as a dal. See Dal under Native Cooking. Ordinarily sold at about a rupee a maund.

Chholá, but—Cicer aritinum.

This grain is not much cultivated, and comparatively has a limited consumption in the district, probably from its being more expensive than other varieties of pulse. The

indigenous chhola is a much smaller seed than that imported from Behar, which is also to be had in the bazars. It is eaten either as a *chebbana* (parched grain), *bhija* (grain steeped in water), with coarse gur or sugar with slices of ginger in way of breakfast, or a prelude to the midday meal, or cooked as a dal. Of all dals, gram is said to be the most strengthening, although rather difficult of digestion. Price, from Rs. 1-8 to 2 a maund.

Lentils.

These papilionaceous seeds furnish the other dals of Bengal, and are as follow :—

Arhar—Cajanus indicus.

Sown in rows along borders of fields and gardens in the early rains, and the crop is generally ripe by the end of the winter season. As a dal, it is universally relished and ground to the form of a powder (*besam*); it is scarcely less prized as forming a convenient basis or ingredient of various native dishes and sweetmeats. Besam is also often used as a capital substitute for common soap. Price, Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-8 a maund.

Khesari— Lathyris sativus.

This is a very common grain, and is extensively grown, both as a quick-growing fodder as well as an inferior dal for the poorer classes. It is cultivated in the same way as peas. It has the reputation of being a very poisonous lentil, but no injurious effects are noticed here. Among the more well-to-do classes, the khesari dal is principally consumed in shape of a well-known preparation called *baris*, much used as an ingredient in native cookery. They are made thus—

Baris ( ).

The fresh dal, carefully husked, is steeped in water until sufficiently softened, when it is ground into a fine pulp on a flat mortar; then it is beaten up well with a little water, and when this is nicely done, the batter is quickly moulded with the hand in conical shaped balls and placed in rows on a mat or any thin flat surface to dry. Seeds of sessamum and the scrapings of chalkumra are sometimes added to the latter to improve the quality and flavour of the preparation. See samples of *baris* sent. Market price, from 12 annas to a rupee per maund.

Masur—Ervumlens.

This is also extensively cultivated in the cold season, and is a favourite article of food with all classes. It is a light dal, easy of digestion, and usually selected for making *kitchries* and *ogras*. See Native Cooking. Price, from Rs. 1-8 to Rs. 2 a maund.

Mug, sona, yellow, and gora, white, mug—Phasiolus aweins, and sublobatus.

This dal is mostly raised in the chur lands by chhita sowing, and is the earliest with maskalai to come to the market. The character of the mug as a wholesome, nourishing, and easily digestible article of diet, is well known. Besides its use as a dal, it is sometimes also eaten raw, previously softened by steeping in water, with sugar, as a morning repast after bathing. Boiled *mug dal* well mashed up with fresh mustard-oil and salt, or butter in place of mustard-oil, is a capital *bhate*, and may be used on the European table as a substitute for potatoes when that tuber is scarce. Price, Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 3 a maund.

Maskalai—Phasiolus mas.

This grain is most extensively cultivated in the district by sowing it broadcast on all lands just emerging from the inundation, the seed being simply scattered on the soft wet ground before it is quite dry. The crop, which is always a most luxuriant one, is gathered by the end of December or beginning of January, when it is readily bought up in the local markets for export to Calcutta and other places. The new grain is generally sold at from Re. 1 to 1-4 a maund of 80 tollahs. It is a most nourishing dal, and, containing a large quantity of mucilage, is most digestible and soothing to the alimentary canal, on which account it is the safest dal to use as a preventive in cases of bowel flux, and when cholera is prevalent. It is also, I beleive, the best anti-scorbutic article of diet going. I use it largely in the Fureedpore Jail, and find it in all respects the most suitable dal in the jail. Maskalai is also employed for making *baris*, and also a native pan-cake called *sarúchákli*, which as a change is just as good and palatable as the ordinary pan-cake.

Oleaginous Aliments.

The following may be mentioned as the principal oil-bearing articles in common use among the people, viz. two varieties of black mastard, the sessamum, the cocoanut, and the country almond. Masina, Linum issitatissimum, is, I hear, grown in small quantities in the northern part of the district, but it is seldom used for dietetic purposes. The same may be said of safflower seed, which, although extensively cultivated for its oil, the latter rarely enters into their dietary.

Mustard-oil and seed.

As I have said, there are only two varieties of mustard grown in the district, viz. the ordinary black mustard—Senapis nigra, *sarson*, *choité surson*, and Senapis ramosa, *rai*, *maghi surson*. Both the varieties are sown in the cold weather, but, as their names imply, one is gathered in Magh—latter end of January and begining of February, and the other later, in March Of these the *maghi* is a larger grain, and is the best and yields most oil, three maunds usually giving one of oil; whereas the other sort requires 4 maunds to one of oil. The price of mustard-oil varies, according to the season, from Rs. 14 to Rs. 18 or even Rs. 19 per maund, and the seed from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 per maund, according to kind. Both the seed and oil are most extensively consumed for culinary and other purposes. In form of a paste (*batna*), the seed forms a necessary component of a number of native dishes, and also as an ingredient of many of their *chatnies*, sauces, and pickles. The oil, on the other hand, is a *sine quâ non* in native cookery: indeed there is hardly a dish in which this universal constituent could be dispensed with. Mustard-oil is also largely used for anointing, an operation by no means unaccompained by many salutary results, some of which it may not be quite out of place to mention here.

(1.) Mustard-oil will, when rubbed over, by uniting with, or as it were saturating, the cuticle, forms a thin glossy elastic layer over the true skin, which will thus render the surface soft and supple, and at the same time the better prevent it from cracking or becoming scurfy.

(2.) The oil, as all oils, being a good non-conducter of heat, it follows that when the skin is smeared with it, it will necessarily serve as a light and cool coating or garment. It will thus afford to the native the cheapest and best safeguard against the violent action of the direct rays of the sun, as also the injurious effects of sudden changes of weather, to which, in consequence of his scanty raiment, he is constantly liable.

(3) Oil being spread over as a fine and almost impermeable layer, must to a certain extent retard undue loss of fluid from the cutaneous surface generally, and these cannot but tend to operate beneficially to the general economy.

(4.) Again, by anointing with oil a sort of glossy and slippery coat is formed on the surface, which must protect the skin and the anointer in some measure from all hurtful atmospheric and hydronautic contact, as the dirty stagnant waters in which the native is often compelled to bathe, the bather here being thus enabled to shake off, as it were, the tainted fluid as soon as he emerges from his plunge. A model of the native oil-mill will be found among the specimens.

Til (*Sessamum orientale*).

This plant is cultivated all over the district for its seed as well as the oil obtained from it by expression. Both these articles are in much request. The seed, in its various forms as ordinary food and oil, is an inferior substitute for that of mustard. The oil, when pure, is sweetish, will keep for months without change or turning rancid, and may be advantageously substituted for olive-oil.

Cocoanut (Narikel, Cocos Nucifera):

The cocoanut is not so very common as other trees in the district, but still the fruit is much sought after as an occasional article of food. The following parts of the plant are eaten:—

Máthi (*capitule*) or the tender inner part of the head, or terminal bud of the tree. It is eaten as a salad, having a sweet taste and a delicious flavour.

Cocoanut-water.

Is the liquid contained in the young fruit (*dâb*), which offers a delightful cooling beverage to the thirsty traveller. It has a slightly alkaline and not an unpleasant sweet taste, and acts on the kidneys as a diuretic It resembles in many respects the common effervescing drinks, and may not be inaptly called Nature's soda water.

Kernel or flesh of the cocoanut.

The edible part of the ripe fruit (*jhunâ narikel*) is the white flesh, varying in thickness and firmness according to age, lining the hardened endocarp or shell. In the young cocoanut (*dâb*), the flesh is soft and thin. *Neyapâti*, scraped up with a spoon and eaten with sugar, forms an agreeable morsel. The hardened ripe flesh, although not unpleasant to eat, is not very digestible. This ripe flesh is used variously in native dishes, and as a component of many of their sweetmeats.

The ripe shell.

The Nature-hardened endocarp forms the bottom of the well known common hauble-bauble of the natives of Bengal.

Bádám (*Terminalia catappa, country almond*).

This tree is occasionally met with on the road-side, and affords a kernel not unlike the genuine article, *Amygdalus communis*, in taste and flavour.

Saccharine Aliments.

All food bodies which are sweet, or contain a sweet principle, may be so denominated, and will naturally include all sweet fruits and the different varieties of sugar and its compounds.

Sweet fruits.

Among these may be enumerated the following kinds, ordinarily found in the district:—The *mango*, the *plantain*, the *pine-apple*, the *jack*, the *áthá*, the *nona*, the *bél*, the *date*, the *guava*, the *rose-apple*, the *star-apple*, the *water-melon*, the *musk-melon*, the *jám*, the *gáb*, the *pomegranate*, the *kul*, the *leechu*, the *pápeya*, and the *depal*.

Mango (*Aum*, *Manifera indica*).

This stately evergreen forms alone at least 50 per cent. of the trees grown in the district; indeed the tree is so common that there is scarcely a hut which is not more or less shaded under its widely extended foliage. The tree blossoms about the beginning of February, and the fruit generally ripens by the middle of May. There are at least twenty varieties of the fruit to be seen, varying in size, shape, and flavour; but as they are all more or less infected with a species of beetle, they are scarcely, the few really otherwise good sorts, fitted for the table. Generally speaking, the best sorts are the worst—eaten up by these insects; the natives, notwithstanding, greedily eat them, and they are also made into *amsatta*, which is made by exposing the expressed juice of the sarcocarp in a thin layer on a plate or piece of cloth to the sun until quite dry, when it is pulled off and folded and kept for use.

When carefully prepared and kept from damp, *amsatta* preserves all the flavour of the fresh mango for months. It is a wholesome preserve, and often given to the sick and invalid as a good appetizer, and to promote digestion. Ripe mango stewed makes an excellent sub-acid dish, *ambal*.

Plantains and bananas.

The varieties commonly met with are *sapri*, *champá*, *chini-champá*, *martábán*, *rámkállá*, *kanyá bássi*, *mádna*, and *biché kala* or *kanlalli*. The two last kinds, although the sweetest, are not much prized. Plantains are largely consumed, and eaten either alone or with rice and milk, much in the same way as mango.

Pine-apple (*Annaras*), *Bromelia ananas*.

The pine-apple met with in the markets is for the most part imported from either the Dacca or Burrisal district. The bazar fruit is seldom so good as those raised in hot houses in Europe, but if removed from the plant when quite ripe, it is not to be despised. Those of a small compact size, smooth, round, and with large eyes, are the sweetest and best. It is in season in June, July, and August. The natives eat it sliced with a little salt or steeped in rose-water and sweetened. A stewed tart or *ambal* is also sometimes made.

Katal (*Jackfruit*), *Artocarpus integrifolia*.

This is another very common fruit, and the largest fruit perhaps known in the world A large jack will often weigh over a maund. The edible part of the jack is the thick yellow fleshy pericarp enclosing a large ex-albuminous seed. A collection of these bodies, in fact, closely packed together on a stunted floral branch, and encased in a thick spiny leathery integument, constituting the entire fruit. The fruit has a peculiar strong smell about it, but is nevertheless highly approved, and accordingly largely consumed by its native admirers. The farinaceous seeds of the jack form a valuable culinary article in a native household, and when roasted, are not much unlike chestnuts in flavour

Tut (*Mulberry*), *Morus indicus*.

This fruit comes in season soon aften the cold weather, but seems to be little cared for.

Ata (*Custard Apple*), *Anona squamosa, and Nona* (*Bull's-heart*) *Anona reticulata*.

These two fruits are much like each other, having a round form, skin soft, and either squamus or comparatively even, and consist of a number of arillate seeds embedded in a concrete mass of soft whitish flesh resembling custard. The ata differs from nona by its tubercular appearance and the superior delicacy of its flavour.

Bél, *Ægle marmelos*.

This tree is a very common one, bearing a large, smooth, spheroidal fruit of the berry kind, with a hard rind. The flesh of the ripe bél is sweet, fragrant, and delicious. Its nutritive, astringent, and cathartic properties, are well known. The fruit is in season in the hot weather nd early autumn. The preparations of bél are *bél pora*, bel roasted on fire; *bél panna* or sherbat, ripe pulp made into a drink by mixing it with water, sugar, and also a little tamarind sometimes; and bél *morabba* or preserve, the unripe bél decocted, sliced, and then boiled and candied without the seeds.

The dried sliced unripe bél (*bél-sut*) is the form in which the native physician uses it for medicinal purposes. The gummy, viscid, transparent fluid round the seed in the green fruit resembling the white of eggs, is extensively employed by the native painter to dilute his colours.

Tál, Borassus flabelliformis.

This monarch of the palms, besides its other uses, affords a few alimentary articles which require a passing notice.

Ripe fruit, packa tál.—Common in July, August, and September, and abounding in a sweet yellowish pulp with a peculiar heavy aroma, much relished

Tál Patali.—Expressed pulp mixed with lime water and scrapings of cocoanut flesh and then set to coagulate on a plate or mould of many patterns.

Tál Boras.—A kind of fritters made from the pulp saturated with flour or rice meal and fried in oil.

Tal-sans.—The soft semi-transparent kernel with the contained milk of the young fruit is so called, and is justly considered a great delicacy among the natives.

Talphopol.—Is the spongy overgrown cotyledon of the ripe nut at the period of germination. It is also good eating. No toddy is made from the tâl in the district.

Khejur, Phœnix sylvestris.

This plant, which is so largely cultivated in the district for its juice, produces a very inferior fruit compared with its congener from the arid regions of Western Asia. The thin, dark-brown outer coating of flesh is sweet, and has the usual date flavour, but on account of its scantiness little cared for. The stone of this date is sometimes substituted for the betel-nut.

Guava—Párá, Am Sapri, Psidium pyriferum.

Too well known to require a lengthened notice. Only one variety is met with, white flesh and in size and shape like an ordinary pear. The fruit is in season in July and August

Rose-apple (Golap jam) and Star-apple (Jamrul), Eugenia jambos et Eugenia alba.

Both these trees are not unfrequently met with in native gardens; the one bearing a round white fruit with rose flavour, the other a conical fruit of the size of a small pear, but with a shining waxy appearance, and perfectly insipid in taste. Both come in season in the rains.

Water-melon-(Tarbuz), Cucumis citrellus, and Musk-melon (Phuti), Cucumis momordica.

These fruits are found in abundance during the rains and eaten greedily, although they are far from being very wholesome.

Peach, Amygdalis persica.

The peach is not altogether unknown in the district, but the fruit is generally watery and insipid, and hardly worth anything.

Lichu, Nephellium lichi.

Common in gardens. The fruit is well known.

Gâb, Embryopteris glutinifera.

The soft slimy arillus round the seeds of the ripe gâb is sometimes eaten by the poorer classes.

Bilati Gâb, Diospyros kaki.

The plant is occasionally met with. The fruit, which ripens in August, has a rich crimson down round it, and resembles in taste somewhat a plantain. In size it is like a pear, with generally three flattish stones in the centre.

Papeya (Peppey), Carica papaya.

Met everywhere. The fruit is too well known to require description.

Pomegranate (Darim), Punica granata.

The same remark also applies to this fruit.

Dephol, Artocarpus lacoocha.

Common in the district. The fruit, when ripe in the rains, is of a yellow colour, and about the size of a large mango, and generally somewhat distorted in shape. It is not at all unpleasant to eat, provided it is always perfectly ripe.